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THE TIMES

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Back-to-work order defied by left-wing pit leaders

Left-wing leaders of the 50,000 miners now on unofficial strike intend to reinforce their challenge to the Government's coal industry policy, despite the instruction from the NUM executive yesterday that the men should return to work. In the Commons, the Prime Minister gave a warning that the miners' defeat of the Government would fall on everyone in higher taxes or interest rates.

Yorkshire may join the walkout

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Government's industrial crisis over striking pitmen looked far from over last night despite an instruction from the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers that *there should be an immediate return to normal working.*

Left-wing coalfield leaders who have brought out more than 50,000 miners on unofficial *strike plan to continue* their challenge to the Cabinet policy for the coal industry, and they *may* be joined today by Britain's largest mining area, Yorkshire.

There was a partial return to work in Scotland and Durham yesterday as the NUM executive gathered to vote on the return-to-work formula worked out in talks with Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, which guarantees huge new state aid for coal mining. Men at seven pits in the militant Scots coalfield went back, but the miners in South Wales and Kent remained solidly on strike.

In Yorkshire, where more than 1,000 pitmen were on strike at Orgreave and Park Hill, two collieries that had been threatened with closure, the NUM area council will be recommended by Mr Arthur Scargill, the coalfield president, to strike from Monday.

"We believe that there should be firm assurances on the table that are not present at the moment", he said yesterday. "The coal board should declare that all those pits named in the programme are not to be closed."

Area leaders of the Scots and South Wales miners will be putting similar arguments to their members today, despite ministerial assurances that the Government is ready to step in with huge cash subventions to stem the flow of coal imports and ease the coal board's financial constraints laid down under the Coal Industry Act, 1980.

Their moves contradict the pleas made by Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the NUM, to "responsible" members of the union's national executive to secure a return to work. The executive voted yesterday by 15 to 8, with one abstention, to approve a policy of accommodation with the Cabinet and the coal board after the minister's and employers' retreat from the 23 pit closures they had originally intended.

The successful motion, which divided the miners' leadership along familiar left-right political lines, said the workers should accept that the outcome of the talks at the Department of Energy on Wednesday night represented "a victory for NUM policy and commonsense".

It went on to instruct the miners' national negotiators to meet the coal board and other unions in the industry "to formulate the biggest financial package to put to the Government at the next meeting".

Talks on a financial rescue for the coal industry are to be resumed next Wednesday. In the meantime, the executive insisted on saying, despite pleas from Mr Scargill and Mr Michael McGahey, the leader of the Scottish pitmen: "We instruct our members who are now on strike to return to work".

The palliative that did not satisfy militant members of the executive was that if there was an "unsatisfactory outcome" to the forthcoming talks, the union would implement its previous decision to go to the men with a recommendation for national strike action.

More than 300 striking miners picketed the NUM offices in Euston Road, London, yesterday when the executive arrived to take the decision, and there were jeers as moderate leaders went in. Even Mr Scargill, many of whose *members have not yet joined* the unofficial strike, did not escape the wrath of the pickets. He was criticized by Kent miners for "not being active enough".

Mr Trevor Bell, secretary of the union's Colliery Officials and Staff area, said that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had been "foolish enough to think that the downward trend that her Government had created in British industry could go on without a group of workers somewhere, sometime, deciding enough was enough".

The outcome of the unofficial strike movement that forced the Government into an unexpectedly early retreat from its position of *allowing no increase* in the coal board's cash limits, now rests on meetings that are due to be held today *and over the weekend. Yorkshire* pitmen and those in North Derbyshire are due to join the present unofficial strike at the *first shift on Monday.*

If they do so, the Government will remain under continuing duress at a time when it is *engaging* in talks with leaders of the "triple alliance" unions—the NUM, the National Union of Railwaymen, and the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation—on the general outlook for the nation's basic nationalized industries. Those discussions open with ministers on Monday morning.

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Thatcher warning on cost of miners' win

Political Editor

Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday gave a warning that the Government's defeat at the hands of the miners would fall on everyone, either through higher taxes or higher interest rates.

The Prime Minister, attempting to cut through the clamour of criticism and derision provoked in and out of Parliament by the Government's about-turn, tried claiming credit for the way she had brought the crisis to an end. "*The* action was swift and decisive", she snapped at Commons question time.

Mrs Thatcher was *determined* not to go beyond what was conceded at Wednesday night's meeting regarding the Government's *willingness to increase* spending. But she insisted that the only place the money was to be found was from the people of this country.

"When people constantly ask for more money I hope they will keep that in mind," she said.

Last night senior ministers said that the concession on coal made the Government more *determined* than ever *not* to give in to other unions. The Prime Minister made it quite clear that she was swallowing her pride, and in no mood for fooling with those who jeered at her.

There was no rejoinder to Mr Merlyn Rees, the shadow energy spokesman, who scoffed, government policy, like a juggernaut, had "jackknifed".

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, could, like Mrs Thatcher before him, only repeat the carefully guarded terms in which he had skidded from *the Government's cash* limit policy in his talks with the coal industry.

That confirmed that it was the Government that *had made* the first move in easing its constraints. In his statement to the Commons he recounted: "*I said that the Government* was prepared to discuss the financial constraints with an open mind and also with a view *to movement.*

"The chairman of the National Coal Board said that in the light of this the board would be withdraw their closure proposals and reexamine the position in consultation with the unions."

As regards imports, he went on: "The industry representatives said they wished to see *this* figure brought down to its irreducible minimum. I said that the Government would be prepared to look, with a view to movement, at what could be done to go in *this direction.*"

A senior minister last night said he did not expect the sums involved to be great. But Mr *Michael Foot, Leader of the* Opposition, is said to believe that they will amount to close to £200m in addition to the

Continued on page 2, col 3

Mr Howell faces Tory anger

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Tory backbench demands that Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of *the National Coal Board*, should be dismissed for *giving* the Government wrong advice, were voiced at a private meeting of the party's parliamentary *energy committee last night.*

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, who attended the meeting to explain *the negotiations with the* miners, was said to have been given a rough time by angry *backbenchers.*

They strongly questioned Mr Howell on whether he had opened the door for a fundamental change of policy on import controls and also on cash limits.

Conservative backbenchers, conscious that the party is opposed to import controls, put forward their suspicions that *by giving way to the miners'* demands the Government could leave itself open to similar *demands from steel and textile* workers.

But there were other challenges from backbenchers at the *drift of government policy.* Some pointed out that the Government was giving way to public sector industries such as coal and steel, while penalizing the private sector with high interest rates.

It was time, they said, that the Government should do more for the private sector.

Shrinkage in economy heads for 1930 level

By Melvyn Westlake

Britain's economy shrank by 5½ *per cent during 1980, effectively* wiping out much of the growth that took place in the two previous years. The full dimensions of the recession which arrived last spring became clear yesterday with the first official estimate of the slump in gross domestic pro*duct during the whole of last* year.

Gross domestic product is the measure commonly used to express the size of a nation's economy and changes in its performance. Yesterday's figures show that gdp contracted by 5½ per cent between the fourth quarter of *1979* and the fourth quarter of 1980.

However, as the economy was declining throughout the year, the *average level of gdp* last year showed a *slightly* smaller drop compared with the average of 1979.

On this basis the decline was 3 per cent, roughly in line with the Treasury forecasts which accompanied Sir Geoffrey Howe's November mini-Budget, but slightly greater than expected at the time of his full Budget last March.

A further shrinkage in the *economy, of about* 1½ *per cent* this year, is also expected by government economists, although many others predict that *gdp will* fall by as much in 1981 as in 1980.

This would make the present recession twice as deep as the one in 1974-75, which was the previous worst since the war. In those two years together, gross domestic product fell about 3 per cent.

It would also mean that the present contraction of the economy was similar in magnitude to the great slump of 1930-31 when the fall in gdp was about 7 per cent in the two years taken together.

Industry, particularly the manufacturing and construction industries, have borne much of the brunt of slump this time, although the distributive sectors have also been hit.

Agriculture, which accounts for only a tiny proportion of the nation's output, has done rather better, *while the* transport and communications sectors have also begun to be affected as the recession has *progressed.*

As North Sea oil and gas production was up in 1980, the fall in the rest of the economy is *even bigger than the overall* figure suggests.

The main engine of the recession has been huge destocking by manufacturing and distributive companies who have been hit hard by the monetary squeeze, high interest rates and rising costs.

Stocks are often financed on borrowed money and companies have been forced to take action to bring down their costs by every possible method. As well as cutting stocks, they have shed labour and reduced capital investment.

Separate figures published yesterday *show* that stocks of manufacturing and distributive industry were slashed by over £2,000m (at 1975 prices) or some 7 per cent *last* year—the highest drop ever recorded.

The fall in *stocks* during the fourth quarter of 1980 alone *was £840m, the bulk of this* destocking occurring in the manufacturing sector. Stocks of materials and fuel, as well as

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The Pope and the photographers: An alert photographer caught the Pope yawning at Mass in Quezon yesterday *during his strenuous tour of the Philippines. In Paris* yesterday the French photographer, René Leveque, won a first prize in the World Press Photo Contest for his shot (below) of the Pope making fun of photographers at an earlier encounter. **Philippines tour, page 7**

New Polish regime's deal with farmers ends months of unrest

From Dessa Trevisan
Warsaw, Feb 19

The Polish authorities today recognized in fact, if not yet in law, the independent Rural Solidarity union by signing an agreement with its representatives.

Their action ended a six-week strike in Rzeszow, in south-east Poland, and removed the re*maining source of* tension after the settlement reached yesterday with the students.

The Ministry of Agriculture and the strike committee of Rural Solidarity, reinforced by Mr Lech Walesa, the chairman of the independent Solidarity union, agreed after negotiations that went on throughout the night on a number of crucial issues.

The agreement heralds radi*cal changes in Poland's* agricultural policy, and in the status of private farmers whose cooperation is vital in the Government's struggle against the country's economic difficulties.

The agreement did not include the question of recognition of Rural Solidarity, but in accepting the signatures of its founders, the Government left open the way to formal recognition. The farmers agreed to shelve the issue, *hoping* for a possible compromise solution.

Under the agreement private land ownership is to be guaran*teed by special legislation in* Parliament incorporating the guarantee into the constitution. Farming in Poland is overwhelmingly in private hands, but there were many issues left unclear, particularly concerning the inheritance of land. That obviously made the farmers feel insecure.

The farmers, who have been complaining about official discrimination in favour of state-owned farming estates, have also been guaranteed equal treatment and other *improvements in their position.*

With this issue settled and the farmers accepting the Government's pledges of new support for agriculture and agreeing to wait for their association to be made legal, the country is free of open domestic strife for the first time since early last summer.

The astonishing thing is that it has happened within the new Government's first week. General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the new Prime Minister, restored peace without having recourse to threat of force, but by pursuing negotiations. That has created a climate for the Government to carry out its programme of urgent reforms.

Obviously, it will require *sacrifice and good will from the* population but the Government has acquired the *trust* which its predecessor clearly lacked.

Meat and sugar rationing is to be introduced a month or two after agreement was reached by the Government with Solidarity. The sugar ration, which has been set for a number of years at two kilos (just over 4 lb) a person a month, is to be reduced to 1.5 *kilos.*

Meat rationing is expected within a month, and according to the agreement, each person is to receive an average of 3.5 kilos of meat a month. But no agreement could be reached over butter rationing.

Reagan budget under attack by liberals

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Feb 19

Members of Congress and other public figures have reacted to President Reagan's economic message along predictable partisan lines. Senator Edward Kennedy, the Democratic Party's leading liberal, said: "I am not prepared to see the social progress of a generation swept aside in a few short weeks." Mr Mickey Edwards, a Republican congressman, said that the proposed measures were "the beginning of a political revolution in this country.".

He observed that the President would find it difficult to get his *proposals* through Congress because "everyone whose ox has been gored, and that's going to include just about everybody, *is going to be* squealing".

The President himself has retired to his ranch at Santa Barbara, California. Before leaving, he said: "We believe that the main source of strength in this country is going to be the people themselves. We believe also that they are ready to support a great change".

The most hostile reaction, predictably, came from liberals. The congressional black caucus denounced the plans as attacking "programmes that are the lifelines for millions of poor *Americans*".

The President's supporters have taken to the air to defend the proposals. Mr Donald Regan, the Secretary of *the* Treasury, and Mr David Stockman, the Secretary of the Office of Management and Budget, were on breakfast television

Mr Reagan has proposed cuts of $41,000m (£18,000m) in next year's government spending, plus a further $8,000m in concealed expenditures to bring the total up to almost $50,000m. He also proposes that income tax should be cut by 5 per cent from July 1 (half way through the American tax year) and by a total of 30 per cent over the next three years.

He intends to propose sharp increases in the defence budget ($90,000m in the next three years) but the exact figures have not been revealed yet. Yesterday's *exercise* was *a* "message" to Congress. The formal revisions to the budget will be delivered next month.

Mr Reagan was loudly cheered when he entered the House of Representatives to make his speech last night. It was the first time he has addressed Congress. The speech was delivered at 9 pm to allow as many people as possible to watch it *on television.*

The American Federation of Labour-Congress of Industrial Organizations, which is holding its annual congress in Florida, denounced the President's proposals. It said that they "substitute unrestrained market power for social responsi*bility and human concerns*". The President's programme was "a high risk gamble with the future of America".

***Reagan broadcast, and* Commentary, page 6**

Bomb kills soldier at KGB base

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 19

Soviet sources today indirectly confirmed reports circulating in Moscow that a *bomb exploded near the headquarters* of the KGB security police earlier this week, killing a Russian soldier.

The explosion apparently occurred on Monday afternoon in Kirov Street, leading off the square where the large granite headquarters of the KGB are situated. It is not clear how or where the bomb was planted, but there are strong suggestions that the motive was political.

The sources agreed today that there had been an incident, and *that an engineer was killed, but* suggested the motive was a private vendetta. However, a local police station told Western correspondents that they should ask the KGB for details, as they were handling the case—a clear hint that the authorities believe the purpose to have been political.

A political attack would clearly have been timed to coincide with the opening of the Communist Party Congress here, and may have been intended as a protest by one of the nationalist groups in the Soviet Union.

The most active of those are *the Armenian nationalists*, who were responsible for planting a bomb in the Moscow underground four years ago. At least seven *people* died in that incident and three men were shot in 1979. A year after the bombing the Government published a decree tightening control over the storage and registration of explosives.

Soviet party officials, asked about the incident on Monday, dismissed it as a "provocation". But they did not deny that the explosion had happened, suggesting rather than the news of it was provocative.

Water unions reject 'final' 10% pay offer

Water industry employers said that a national strike would not bring an improved pay offer after union conferences around Britain had voted for rejection. The National Water Council said the 10 per cent offer was final and was not planning any initiative. England's nine water *authorities have been* asked by the Government to reduce their charges after an independent inquiry Page 4

Urgent postal talks

The Post Office is urgently seeking an agreement with unions for a productivity scheme to save 15 *million* working hours and between £40m and £50m next year. The proposal will be discussed by a special conference of the Union of *Communication* Workers in April Page 2

Whitehall pay hope

The Government is likely to increase its pay offer to 530,000 white-collar civil servants from 6 to 7½ per cent after private talks with union leaders. They are due to meet Lord Soames on Monday Page 2

Mr Callaghan steps into Canada dispute

Conservative MPs at Westminster have responded angrily to a surprising intervention in the Canadian constitutional debate by *Mr James Callaghan, the former* Prime Minister. Mr Callaghan asked for an understanding that any request from Ottawa to patriate the British North America Act would be met in full by Britain Page 7

Civil Service review

Sir Geoffrey Wardale is to review the senior five grades of the Civil Service with the aim of thinning out administrative posts and the possible abolition *of the rank of under-secretary* Page 5

Oxford fees more

Oxford proposes to charge overseas students *this autumn £400 more* than the Government's recommended minimum fees. If approved, the new fees will be £2,900 for arts and £6,400 for *the clinical year of medicine* Page 4

Spanish election likely

An early election in Spain is likely Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister-designate, has not been offered sufficient support to win an absolute majority for his legislative programme and *will* be forced to rule with a minority Government Page 5

Serious crime in London rises

Serious crime in London increased by 5 per cent last year and half the people arrested were aged under 21. The *police said* part of the reason was a 20 per cent increase in robbery and other violent theft Page 5

Committee stays

Lord Annan, vice-chancellor of London University, firmly denied rumours that the Swinnerton-Dyer committee on the rationalization of the university's non-medical colleges is about to be wound up or at least "muzzled" Page 4

Harman case: The legal officer of the National Council for Civil Liberties is to attempt to challenge in the Lords a ruling that she committed contempt of court 5

Damascus: Young Jewish women want to emigrate in search of marriage partners 7

Classified advertisements: *Personal* pages, 26, 28; Appointments, 26; Holidays, 23-25; Car buyers' guide, 26

Two found dead on Ben Nevis

Two climbers missing on Ben *Nevis since Saturday were* found dead yesterday in a hollow on the mountain.

John Mercer, aged 22, of Treadgold Crescent, Leeds, and Geoffrey Hill, also 22, of Holt Farm Rise, Leeds, set out to walk up the mountain, leaving their car at its foot.

Yesterday afternoon a mountain rescue dog led a search team from Lochaber to Mr Hill. He had fallen between 300 and 400ft and his body was lying in snow on the south side of the peak.

Another rescue party, who had been on the mountain since early morning, later found Mr Mercer's body.

It is believed that the two men, both experienced climbers, *had reached the 4,406ft summit,* but started descending by a different route and lost their way.

New transplant

Mr Robert Libberton, aged 42, of Killamarsh, Derbyshire, *Britain's latest heart transplant* patient, was in satisfactory condition at Papworth Hospital, Cambridgeshire, after an operation early yesterday.

Post Office is seeking union agreement on cut of 15 million hours

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Post Office executives are seeking urgent union agreement to a national productivity scheme which would save 15 million working hours next year, without which the corporation could exceed financial limits set by the Government.

The scheme, which is to be discussed at a special conference of the Union of Communication Workers in April, would save the Post Office between £40m and £50m a year. Mr Ronald Dearing, corporation chairman, yesterday indicated that if the union conference rejects the scheme the management may impose sections of it.

Mr Dearing said he hoped the scheme, which would involve much of the corporation's workforce of 180,000, would be implemented by agreement; otherwise he expected local outbreaks of industrial action like the dispute in Manchester last month which delayed mail for several days.

The productivity scheme, which involves reductions in the amount of overtime, new working methods and changes in some manning levels, is being conducted on an experimental basis at 162 sorting offices.

Post Office executives are pleased with the results, particularly in the London area, and said yesterday that there had been a reduction of about 9 per cent in hours worked. Reductions in staffing have been achieved by natural wastage and Mr Dearing said there were no plans for compulsory redundancies.

Under the scheme postal workers in sorting offices have received bonus payments equivalent to 70 per cent of the hours saved and these have boosted pay by between £5 and £15 a week. Average earnings for the London area are about £120 a week and earnings in the provinces are just less than £100 a week.

"We are committed to continue reducing our costs and we have no option but to make productivity improvements", Mr Dearing said. He added that if a national scheme was introduced everyone would benefit, including the customer, postal workers and the corporation.

The national scheme, which will be recommended to the union conference by its executive, would be voluntary and arrangements in individual offices will be negotiated locally. The Post Office is also seeking productivity improvements from counter staff.

Talks between the union and the corporation on the eight basic principles of the scheme are continuing in the hope that final details can be laid before the May conference.

Four pits in Yorkshire reject appeal to end strike

From Richard Ford
Wakefield

Unofficial strikes affected four pits in Yorkshire yesterday, with 1,610 miners ignoring an appeal from Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, for an immediate return to work.

Pickets travelled to other collieries in the coalfield in an attempt to persuade more of the county's 66,000 miners to join the strike.

However, they found that although there was sympathy for men at pits on the now withdrawn National Coal Board closure list, miners wanted to wait until Mr Arthur Scargill, the union's Yorkshire president, had reported to an area delegate meeting today before they took action.

Five hundred men at Park Hill colliery, near Wakefield, voted unanimously to continue their strike until Monday, and Orgreave pit, near Sheffield, was at a standstill, with 540 men out. At Manor pit, near Wakefield, the afternoon shift of 70 men walked out, as did 500 at Ackton Hall colliery.

Board officials in Yorkshire did not know if the strike would spread to night shifts. But earlier Mr Michael Eaton, North Yorkshire area director of the board, said the decision to withdraw the closure proposals gave a breathing space for the difficulties of pits with dwindling reserves to be considered.

He wanted urgent talks with the trade unions "in the light of the very limited resources of coal left at the collieries which were listed".

Mr Kenneth Capstick, a Park Hill NUM delegate, said after the meeting: "Our action will continue until we get an absolute undertaking and absolute assurances about the pits and jobs." Many of the men did not trust the government or board, and they wanted to be certain that jobs would not be threatened in that way again.

Elsewhere in the coalfield, lack of information about the agreement reached on Wednesday night in London gave rise to rumour, and many men knew no more than the details they had heard in news bulletins. At Manor colliery some men appeared unconvinced of the need to walk out before the area delegate meeting. But one said: "This is a threatened pit, and how could we stay at work when others are out fighting for us?"

The NUM branch secretary at the colliery said the initial reaction had been one of happiness, but that had changed to apprehension. Mr Arthur Wichington, branch secretary of the Prince of Wales colliery said: "We are worried that we have got the stuffing but there might be no turkey.

"There is a lot of distrust over the deal. In the past they have never conceded anything as fast as they gave in to this one. Nothing has been put on the table yet."



Mr Arthur Scargill surrounded by police and miners when he arrived for an emergency meeting in London yesterday of the National Union of Mineworkers' executive.

South Wales waits for delegate conference decision

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Leaders of the 25,000 South Wales miners will decide today whether to call off the unofficial strike that has stopped all coal production in the area for four days.

Although the coal board's climb-down over its pit closure programme was welcome, Mr Emlyn Williams, president of the South Wales miners, said he was "always suspicious of a Conservative Government".

In spite of the coal board's decision, the miners in the area, who spearheaded the fight against the closures, continued yesterday their picketing of power stations and other "strategic points". An area delegate conference in Bridgend today will decide whether to recommend a return to work.

By then the leadership hopes that the Government will have stated how much more money will be available to the industry and indicated how firmly it is prepared to act against the importation of cheap coal.

Mr Desmond Dutchfield, the National Union of Mineworkers' vice-president in South Wales, said: "The men will stay out one hundred per cent until they hear from the delegate conference. We are obviously pleased with the result, but we want to know the details."

It seemed incredible that a situation that had been growing into a crisis for 18 months could be settled in an hour and a half behind closed doors.

Mr George Wright, general secretary of the Wales TUC, who had threatened to organize full picketing if the Government attempted to use troops to move coal, said the reversal represented a victory for the miners. "If more workers had done this 18 months ago, thousands more jobs could have been saved."

Back on Monday: About 1,800 miners on unofficial strike at three pits in co Durham are refusing to return to work until Monday in protest at the coal board's earlier decision to close four collieries in the North-east (John Witherow writes from Durham).

Only one of the threatened pits, Houghton colliery, near Sunderland, resumed normal work yesterday.

AUEW in action over committee

By Our Labour Staff

Engineering union leaders are facing legal action over their plan to hold the annual meeting of the newly expanded national committee in two months' time.

The Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers', Technical, Administrative and Supervisory Staffs' Section (Tass) is challenging the legal basis of the new 91-member committee. The national committee is the sovereign policy-making body of the union's dominant engineering section.

The executive of Tass has decided to seek an injunction restraining the engineering section from holding the committee in its new form on the ground that to do so would be a breach of the rules of the four-section amalgamation.

Relations between the engineering section's right-wing leadership and the left-wing-led Tass are strained to breaking point.

The committee was originally intended to be enlarged as part of plans for a new policy-making body comprising delegates from the engineering, construction and foundry sections, with the National Union of Sheet Metal Workers, Coppersmiths, Heating and Ventilation Engineers.

That proposed merger has been stalled by a decision by the certification officer that it conflicts with the rules of the amalgamated union. The engineering section is seeking a High Court ruling overturning that decision.

Engineering pay rises fall sharply

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Further evidence of the decline in the level of manufacturing pay settlements has been provided by figures showing a sharp fall in engineering pay increases.

About 90 per cent of settlements recorded in the industry during December and January were for 10 per cent or less. That compares with 75 per cent of the settlements in the previous two months.

The growing trend towards single-figure wage rises is shown in Engineering Employers' Federation returns from 500 companies employing 170,000 manual workers and staff.

About 30 per cent of employees covered in the survey, recently completed but not yet published, accepted wage rises of 6 per cent or less. That is a notable increase over the 10 per cent who settled at that level during October and November.

About 58 per cent of the employees covered accepted settlements between 6.1 per cent and 10 per cent. That suggests that the biggest group settled at or around 8.2 per cent, also the level of increases in minimum rates agreed nationally from November 1.

Minimum rate settlements directly affect only the small minority of workers who are paid no more than the national basic rate and overtime and shift premiums paid to other employees.

It is normal, however, for the level of real pay increases in many companies for a 40-hour week to mirror the basic rate increase. The 8.2 per cent settlement was reached with relative ease by the EEF last year.

The trend shown by the EEF figures reinforces Wednesday's monthly average earnings figures, showing an overall rise of less than 10 per cent, half the rate of increase of a few months ago.

As with a similar Confederation of British Industry survey, also published on Wednesday, the results of the EEF survey are bound to be attributed to continued recession and consequent fears of unemployment.

Ministers admit errors over issue

Continued from page 1

£886m public funding being given to the coal board next year, mostly in investment.

In spite of demands from Labour's spokesmen to be explicit, and so avert the risk of renewed misunderstanding or mistrust among miners both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Howell declined in the Commons to go beyond the statement. Mr Howell added that it was for "negotiations" at his meeting with mining unions and the coal board next Wednesday.

Mr Howell also made clear, contrary to Opposition demands, that new legislation would not be needed to extend the government funding. He said the Coal Industry Act of 1980 was flexible enough.

Senior ministers acknowledge that the affair was badly judged by the Government, but insist that it must be better not to have a strike than have one. And they hope that they will rescue some credibility for having acted so swiftly.

But other Conservatives are outraged and bewildered, believing that the Government has cracked at a psychologically important moment, inciting other public service unions to believe they have only to get tough to win.

The strongest comment came from Sir Angus Maude, the senior Tory backbencher, until recently in the Cabinet. He termed the Government's handling of the affair "a shambles", although he hastened to say: "I do not suppose the Prime Minister had any part" in its beginning.

Asked on the BBC's *World at One* whether it was a U-turn, a humiliating retreat, a climbdown or an adjustment of tactics, he said: "I would not describe it as any one of them.

"I would say that the Government, whether through its own fault or because it was not alive to the implications of the coal plan, allowed itself to be taken rather by surprise by the reaction and then had to step in rather hurriedly and do what it could to sort out the dispute."

The one MP overtly to blame Sir Derek Ezra, National Coal Board chairman, for being allegedly set on "squeezing more money out of the British taxpayer" was Mr Eric Cockeram, Conservative MP for Ludlow.

He commended the miners for behaving with restraint and increasing their productivity until 10 days ago "when Sir Derek behaved like an IRA bomber".

Upon complaints to the Speaker by Labour MPs and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, Mr Cockeram withdrew his comparison.

In the post-mortem great care is being taken, even by Mrs Thatcher, not to blame anybody.

'Scandalous surrender' to miners

The "scandalous surrender" to the miners had reduced Mrs Margaret Thatcher's economic policies to a shambles, Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the Institute of Directors, said yesterday.

"We might as well ask the miners' union when it wishes to call the next general election. Ministers have lost their way."

The "catastrophic decisions" of recent weeks, including more state aid for British Leyland and British Steel, now made it "terribly difficult" for him to urge his members to back the Government.

The private sector had borne the brunt of the recession, while the public sector was getting away "virtually scot-free".

Opencast coal 'threat' to 30,000 mining jobs

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Surplus opencast coal production threatens the jobs of more than 30,000 miners, and production from opencast sites, which is carried out by civil engineering companies under contracts let by the National Coal Board, is reducing the board's profit potential, it was asserted yesterday.

The Yorkshire-based Opencast Mining Intelligence Group said that the board's profit potential was being reduced by between £50m and £100m.

Their report, which is to be discussed at a conference on opencast mining organized by the Yorkshire and Humberside Council for the Environment, suggested that the level of opencast mining, introduced originally as an emergency measure, could not be justified.

The report states: "The current 10 million tons of surplus opencast production is directly threatening the jobs of some 35,000 miners and would well jeopardize the improvements which are being made in the down as rapidly as possible to deep mines.

"Opencast should be run a tick-over level of about five million tons a year.

"This would improve the coal board's profit and its cash flow and it would create time to establish a reasonable, phased programme for closing uneconomic pits in parallel with the essential development of the deep mines."

Commenting on the report's main findings, the coal board said that the opencast coal mined by subcontractors was the most profitable in Britain, producing a profit last year of £8.43 a ton. "Because it is so profitable it helps us enormously to balance our books, and this is a major reason why the board has maintained a high level of opencast mining."

The report's authors, however, agreed that the £8.43 a ton profit figure was superficial, incorrect and grossly misleading. They argued that the excess of opencast production was swamping a saturated market and forcing the coal board to adopt an ill conceived policy of wholesale closure

A Reassessment of Opencast Coalmining (Opencast Mining Intelligence Group).

Mr Shore invited to join new Labour grouping

Mr Peter Shore, the shadow Chancellor, has been invited to join the steering committee of the new Labour Solidarity Campaign.

The campaign was launched on Tuesday at a Commons meeting. It is an attempt to restore party unity. Some 100 MPs signed a declaration to that effect.

If Mr Shore agrees, he would be a valuable asset to the campaign, which was launched by Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on home affairs. Mr Denis Healey, the deputy Labour leader, also attended.

But Mr Neville Sandelson, MP for Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington, a moderate, said: "These moves seem to be dictated by panic

Better deal near for Civil Service unions

By Our Labour Staff

Senior Civil Service union leaders last night held private talks with government negotiators to lay the groundwork for an improvement in the 6 per cent pay offer to 530,000 white collar civil servants.

The Government will probably make a formal increase in the offer to 7½ per cent in full-scale negotiations on Monday, when the unions are due to meet Lord Soames, Lord President and ministers responsible for the Civil Service.

Ministers are concerned at the prospect of making the improvement only to have it rejected by the unions, who are seeking a 15 per cent increase.

Last night's meeting with Mr Gordon Burrett, deputy secretary at the Civil Service Department in charge of pay negotiations, was designed to sound out the unions on what kind of package would be necessary to head off a campaign of industrial action, due to be launched early next month.

Mr William Kendall, secretary general of the Council of Civil Service Unions, and Mr Peter Jones, the council secretary, were accompanied at the meeting by Mr Gerry Gillman, general secretary of the Society of Civil and Public Servants, and Mr William McCall, leader of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants.

It is thought that the union leaders told Mr Burrett that an offer of 7½ per cent would not be sufficient to prevent the action and heard that the Government may consider adding other elements to produce a package that would be acceptable.

The most likely concession which the Government could make to win the approval of some of the nine unions in the service would be a commitment to return to some form of pay comparability system in next year's pay negotiations.

The usual pay research exercise, which allows civil servants to seek pay increases in line with those won by workers in the private sector, was suspended by the Government, which insisted that this year's settlement had to be based on cash limits.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced on Wednesday that the limit would be 6 per cent, and government negotiators were believed to have suggested alternative ways of accommodating a 7½ per cent offer within the cash limit.

NHS computer staff continue industrial action

National Health Service computer staff are to continue their programme of industrial action, which is delaying payment of cheques worth millions of pounds.

The one-day strikes and overtime ban in the past month have delayed payments for work done by hospital building contractors, dentists and chemists.

The staff's union, the National and Local Government Officers Association, said the staff were being paid at least £1,069 less than the market rate.

The Department of Health said the payment delay was not yet causing any serious difficulties.

Mr Callaghan's gift from ex-colleagues

Mr James Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister, was presented with a computer chess set by his former Cabinet colleagues at a dinner held last night in his honour.

Those at the dinner included: Mr Michael Foot, Mr Denis Healey, Mr Frederick Willey, Mr Joel Barnett, Mr Wedgwood Benn, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Mr Albert Booth, Mr David Ennals, Mr Roy Hattersley, Lord Lever of Manchester, Lady Llewelyn-Davies of Hastoe, Mr Bruce Millan, Mr John Morris, Mr Frederick Mulley, Mr Stanley Orme and Lord Peart.

The social democrats, who were excluded from the dinner by Mr Foot, are sending Mr Callaghan an Ackerman print of Westminster

Scots teachers accept 7.5 pc increase

By Our Education Correspondent

Union leaders representing 64,000 teachers and lecturers in Scotland yesterday accepted a 7.5 per cent salary increase from April 1, bringing the average teacher's annual salary to about £8,000.

The 470,000 teachers in England and Wales, who are also claiming 15 per cent, have so far been offered only 4 per cent, which they have rejected.

Mr Biffen is questioned about the new editors

By Fred Emery

Questions about whether the appointments of the new editors of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* were within the spirit of the undertakings given by Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, and by Mr Rupert Murdoch, the proprietor of the newspapers, were raised last night by a backbench Labour MP.

In a letter to Mr Biffen, released to the press, Mr Phillip Whitehead, MP for Derby, North, asked whether "the new independent national director" was appointed directly by Mr Murdoch "without consultation with, or prior warning to, the existing national directors".

Last Tuesday Sir Edward Pickering and Sir Denis Hamilton were appointed additional independent national directors to the board of Times Newspaper Holdings Ltd.

Mr Whitehead also asked Mr Biffen whether only one nominee was considered as editor of *The Sunday Times*. He remarked that Mr Murdoch's undertaking to journalists of *The Sunday Times* included the following: "The reconstituted board of Times Newspaper Holdings Ltd will consider all candidates for the editorship of any of the Times Newspapers' titles and will make the nomination to the national directors."

In the case of *The Times*, Mr Whitehead asked whether the independent national directors considered "the preferences expressed internally between three candidates, of whom Mr Harold Evans was one".

Mr Whitehead concludes by asking Mr Biffen: "From this beginning do you consider that the independent national directors are exercising, will be exercising after further attrition, the role assigned to them in the undertakings you gave to the House?"

Mr Whitehead started to speak about the editors' appointments during Prime Minister's question time. But the Speaker ruled him out of order

No council action on widow who is squatter

Mrs Jean Lawrence, a widow, of Melrose Walk, Basingstoke, Hampshire, who became a squatter in her own home to get it back from a family who refused to leave, will not be prosecuted for unlawful eviction, Basingstoke council decided yesterday.

The family, the Goodalls, could face prosecution for an alleged offence under the Homeless Persons Act. Mr David Goodall, the woman who lives with him and their daughter Sharon, aged nine, rented the house for three months when Mrs Lawrence went to the United States.

They refused to leave when she returned, so she let herself in when they went out and became a squatter.

At Winchester County Court today the Goodalls are seeking an injunction and damages against Mrs Lawrence for alleged breaches of the Protection from Eviction Act. Mrs Lawrence will seek a possession order at the same hearing.

£38,000 taken in three station raids

Armed robbers escaped with £38,000 in three raids on London railway stations yesterday. The raids were at Earls Court, Stonebridge Park and Selhurst.

Scotland Yard believes that the three robberies were not connected.

In each case the raiders had shotguns, but no shots were fired and no one was hurt.

Dispute closes garages

Most of the petrol filling stations in Jersey closed yesterday for an indefinite period over a pay dispute. Only essential services are being supplied with fuel.

Gas prices to go up by 25%

By Bill Johnstone
Industrial Staff

The average householder in Britain will be paying up to £1 a week more by October for his gas because of a 25 per cent increase in gas prices announced yesterday by British Gas.

The increase will be in two phases, 15 per cent from April and a further 10 per cent in October.

The rise is meant to bring the tariffs paid by the domestic consumer into line with those of the industrial and commercial sector. The increases also conforms to Government policy, announced in January, 1980, whereby gas prices must maintain a realistic level and be increased over the next three years by 10 per cent a year in real terms.

Last year's figure of 15 per cent inflation brings the total increase this year to 25 per cent.

Mr John Edmonds, National Energy Officer of the General and Municipal Workers Union, which represents most of the 40,000 manual workers in the gas corporation, reacted angrily to the increases.

"Many poor gas customers, including old age pensioners and the growing number of unemployed people, will suffer considerable hardship and face a terrible choice between food and heating", he said.

The union said: "The gas corporation is being used as a tax collecting agency to raise money which the Government has decided, for party political reasons, it cannot raise from income tax".

Prior plea for trust in works relations

By Our Political Staff

An appeal to improve relations at work to avert a resumption of old inefficiencies and restrictive practices when the recession eased was made last night in Harrogate by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment.

Despite talk of management and workers making sacrifices and buckling down in the present crisis, the test would come in the recovery.

Plain common sense was better than the jargon of "employee involvement" or "worker participation". It was a matter of building up trust, and seeking to win the full-hearted commitment of everyone

Home Office begins race attacks inquiry

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Home Office officials are to talk to community leaders, local authorities and police in London and the provinces to find out about racialist attacks on black people and Asian people.

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, told Indian journalists and their guests last night in London: "I want to make it absolutely clear that I intend to pursue this investigation vigorously and urgently."

The officials will be from different parts of the Home Office, the police and community programmes departments.

The Home Office has written to all chief constables seeking their cooperation in the inquiry and asking for their experience. Mr Whitelaw said that Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, and chief constables were determined that the police should respond positively to the attacks.

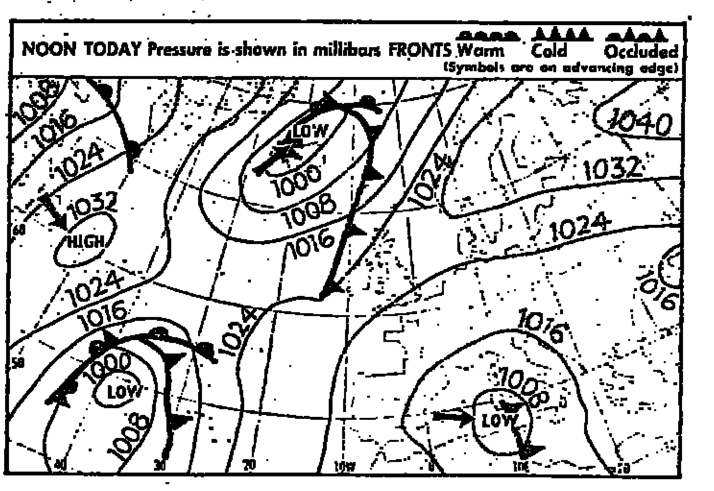
The investigation keeps a promise made by Mr Whitelaw to the all-party Joint Committee against Racialism, which told him of an increasing number of racialist attacks in many parts of Britain. He said that the Home Office would begin a study of racialist organizations and discuss with police forces the feasibility of setting up police units to monitor and investigate the attacks.

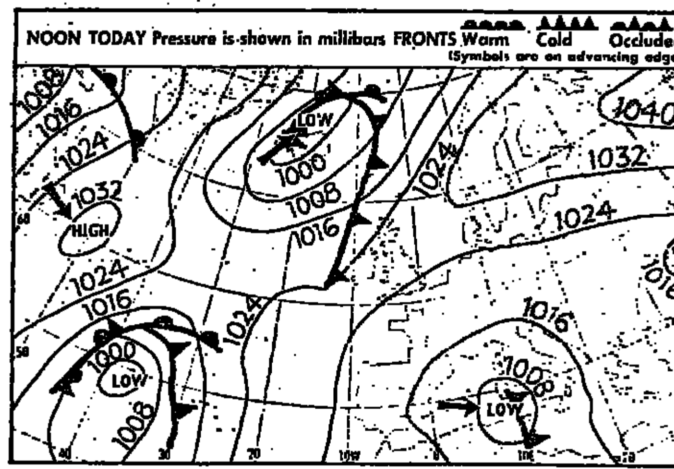
He has raised the investigation with the Commissioner. Sir David resents any suggestion that his men are dragging their feet in handling racialist attacks.

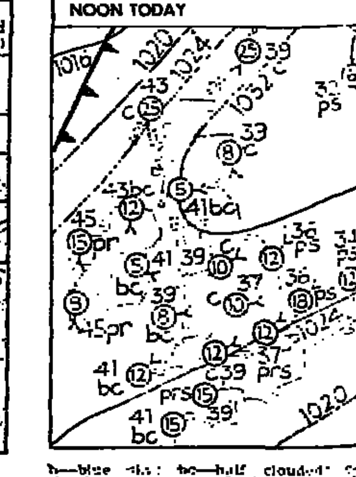
Some black and Asian organizations feel that the police do not respond urgently enough to complaints about incidents. The difficulty for the police is in deciding whether attacks have a racialist motive or are part of general hooliganism. Some cases are obviously racially vindictive, as when slogans are left. How far the attacks are deliberately organized by right wing extremist groups is more difficult to assess.

Part of Mr Whitelaw's speech was devoted to the need to maintain confidence in the police and to discourage vigilante groups who feel they cannot rely on the police. He said it was important to report racialist attacks to the police and to cooperate with them.

Weather forecast and recordings







b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 7.5 am. Sun sets: 5.25 pm
Moon sets: 7.58 am. Moon rises: 7.10 pm

Last quarter: February 27.
Lighting up: 5.55 pm to 6.33 am.
High water: London Bridge, 2.44 am, 7.1m; 3.7 pm, 7.3m. Avonmouth, 8.14 am, 13.4m; 8.38 pm, 13.3m. Dover, noon, 6.4m. Hull, 7.19 am, 7.2m; 7.24 pm, 7.6m. Liverpool, 12.1 am, 9.1m; 12.16 pm, 9.3m.
1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft.

A ridge of high pressure over central Britain will maintain a cold NE airstream over S parts.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S, E, central N, NE England, East Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Mostly cloudy, outbreaks of mainly light sleet or snow; wind NE, moderate or fresh; max temp 2° to 4°C (36° to 39°F).

W Midlands, SW England, Aberdeen: Frost early and late, rather cloudy, some bright intervals, a few light wintry showers; wind NE, moderate or fresh; max temp 3° to 5°C (37° to 41°F).

N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Frost early and late, mostly dry, bright intervals; wind E or SE, light or moderate; max temp 3° to 5°C (37° to 41°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Frost inland early and late, rather cloudy, a few wintry showers near coast; wind S or SE, light; max temp 3° to 5°C (37° to 41°F).

Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Frost early and late, mostly dry, bright intervals; wind S, moderate or fresh; max temp 3° to 5°C (37° to 41°F).

Argyll, NW Scotland: Frost inland at first, mostly dry, bright intervals, cloud thickening in W, with perhaps a little rain; wind S, light or moderate, freshening; max temp 4° to 6°C (39° to 43°F).

Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, scattered wintry showers; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 3° to 5°C (37° to 41°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Apart from wintry showers in SE at first, it will be rather cold but mostly dry, with sunny intervals tomorrow, but rain, sleet or snow in NW Scotland will spread SE to many parts on Sunday.

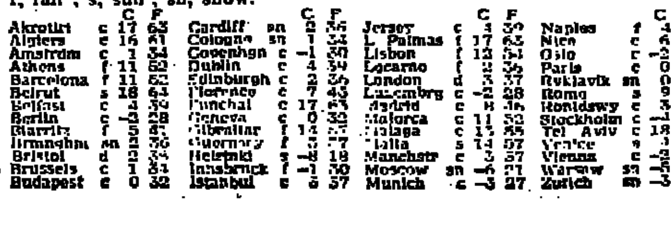
Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind NE, fresh, occasionally strong; sea moderate or rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind mainly E, light or moderate; Sea slight.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 4°C (39°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1°C (34°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 70 per cent. Rain, 24 hrs to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24 hrs to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,024.9 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; s, sun; sn, snow.

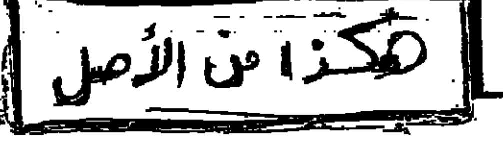


		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	c	17	63	Cardiff	sn	2	36	Jersey	c	4	39	Naples	f	4	39
Algiers	c	16	61	Cologne	sn	1	34	L Palmas	f	17	63	Nice	c	6	43
Amstrdm	c	1	34	Copenhgn	c	-1	30	Lisbon	f	13	55	Oslo	c	-2	28
Athens	f	11	52	Dublin	c	4	39	Locarno	f	2	36	Paris	c	0	32
Barcelona	f	11	52	Edinburgh	c	2	36	London	d	3	37	Reykjavik	sn	0	32
Beirut	s	18	64	Florence	c	7	45	Luxembrg	c	-2	28	Rome	s	9	48
Belfast	c	4	39	Funchal	c	17	63	Madrid	c	8	46	Ronaldswy	c	3	37
Berlin	c	-2	28	Geneva	c	0	32	Majorca	c	11	52	Stockholm	c	-1	30
Biarritz	f	5	41	Gibraltar	f	14	57	Malaga	c	13	55	Tel Aviv	c	18	64
Birmnghm	sn	2	36	Guernsey	f	5	41	Malta	s	14	57	Venice	s	3	37
Bristol	d	2	36	Helsinki	s	-8	18	Manchstr	c	3	37	Vienna	c	-2	28
Brussels	c	1	34	Innsbruck	f	-1	30	Moscow	sn	-6	21	Warsaw	sn	-5	23
Budapest	c	0	32	Istanbul	c	3	37	Munich	c	-3	27	Zurich	sn	-3	27

Overseas selling prices

Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs [illegible]; Canaries Pts 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm [illegible]; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; [illegible] 135; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Repub [illegible]; Italy L 1100; Jordan JD [illegible]; Kuwait KD 0.160; Lebanon [illegible]; Luxembourg Lf [illegible]; Madeira Esc [illegible]; Malta 30c; Morocco Dir [illegible]; Norway Kr [illegible]; Oman OR [illegible]; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR [illegible]; Singapore $3.5; Spain Pts 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs [illegible]; Syria L$ 6.50; Tunisia Din [illegible]; USA [illegible]; Canada $1.50; UAE Dir [illegible]; Yugoslavia Din 40.

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HOME NEWS

Water industry employers stick to 10% offer despite workers' protest votes and strike demands

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Water industry employers last night maintained a firm stance in the face of votes at union conferences to reject their 10 per cent pay offer, and indicated that the offer would not be improved even if the unions call for a national strike.

Several area conferences of delegates representing members of the two main unions in the industry, the General and Municipal Workers' Union (GMWU) and the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) yesterday voted for rejection and there were some calls for a strike if the offer is not improved.

But last night the National Water Council, which negotiates with the 32,000 manual water and sewerage workers in England and Wales, said it was not planning any initiatives and would be waiting to hear the outcome of a meeting next Wednesday of the unions' negotiating body.

The council said the 10 per cent offer was final and would not be improved. It is understood that the employers' negotiators are due to meet early next week to discuss the situation.

The employers have been making contingency plans for dealing with a national strike, the council said. It maintained that voting in the regions had not been as solid as had been reported and that the votes at the large Becton sewerage works, in London, were 87 per cent in favour of accepting the offer, although the Nupe regional conference which covers the works voted by a substantial majority to reject it.

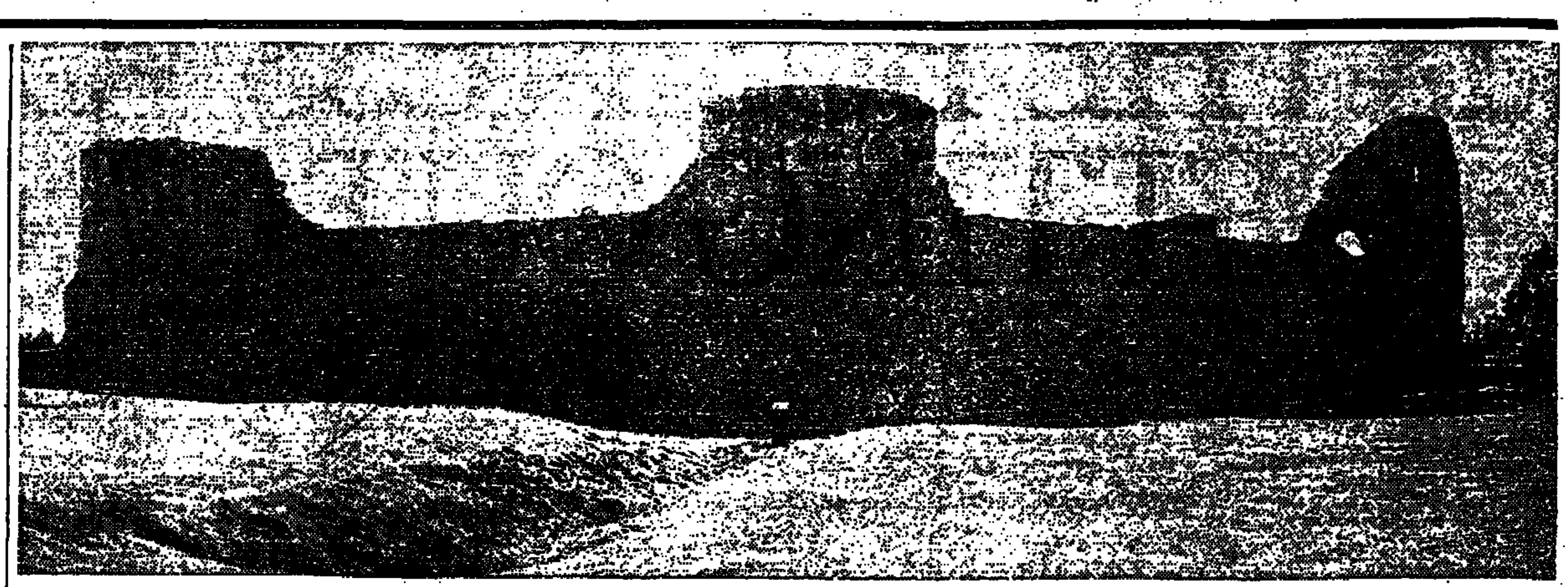
The offer, under which average weekly earnings in the industry would rise from £108.49 to £119.41, has been rejected by a majority of workers in the industry. Several conferences have called for industrial action with varying degrees of militancy.

The largest region in the GMWU, which covers 5,500 water workers in the Midlands, yesterday returned a vote for rejection, and in Liverpool delegates representing 1,000 workers also rejected the offer and recommended that a national strike should start from March 2.

Mr William Smith, the union's Liverpool regional officer, said after the meeting, which voted overwhelmingly for rejection: "The men are very angry and frustrated. They feel the offer is provocative and does not mean much of an increase above the original 7.9 per cent."

Mr Rodney Nesle, the regional officer in Birmingham, whose area covers workers in the Severn-Trent, Anglian and Thames water authorities, said after his delegate conference that water workers in the region were prepared to strike.

Mr Edmund Newall, the GMWU's chief negotiator for the industry, last night appealed to the employers to increase the offer to avoid a strike.



Recruiting drive: The Government, under pressure from critics who claim that it is neglecting its responsibilities, has promised shortly to begin recruiting caretakers and maintenance staff for the historic buildings and ancient monuments in its care (our Planning Reporter writes).

Recent correspondence in *The Times* was provoked by a letter from Dr A. J. Taylor, who wrote that some famous ruins were closed to the public or left unguarded because of the freeze on Civil Service recruitment. He also expressed concern at the depletion of the Department of the Environment's skilled maintenance staff, and at the possibility of the Government's transferring monuments to the care of local authorities or private enterprise.

The department says that, of more than 400 historic properties for which it is directly responsible, only about 20 are closed to the public. But they include such well known attractions as Chiswick House, Dartmouth Castle, Pevensey Castle (above), Furness Abbey, in Cumbria, and St Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, recently assured *The Times* that the need to recruit more caretaking staff was recognized. A department official insisted that all historic buildings and monuments would be open to the public by the time the tourist season began in April.

It was not the policy of the department to approach anyone else about taking on responsibility for its properties, the official added. Approaches from local authorities, other bodies or individuals would be considered, "but we are not going around hawking them".

Public outcry would almost certainly prevent the hiving off of such outstanding monuments as Fountains Abbey or the site of the Battle of Hastings, but concern has been expressed for more humble relics. One such is the fifteenth-century Widdington tithe barn in Essex, which was take into department guardianship about ten years ago

Letters, page 15

Rippon call to spend on public works

By Our Political Reporter

Unemployment is costing the nation £8,000m a year, money that would be better spent on orders to benefit the hard-pressed building and other private sector industries, Mr Geoffrey Rippon, the Conservative former Cabinet minister, said last night.

Arguing for what amounts to a public works programme, he told the Tory Reform Group at Oxford University that the result would be the creation of real jobs and real wealth.

Quoting Treasury figures, Mr Rippon said that each extra unemployed man cost the state £3,500 a year in lost revenue and in benefits, free school meals and milk.

"This suggests that the rise of 900,000 in unemployed adults in the past year has cost around £3,100m", he said, "and this figure takes no account of other costs, such as redundancy payments, loss of direct taxes, or the cost of special employment measures or of the productivity lost to the nation".

He added that a separate set of Treasury figures had suggested that one unemployed single man cost the country £4,835 a year and a married man with two children £6,006. The very lowest figure that could be used was the £2,400m paid in direct benefits, compared with only £333m in 1973-74.

Mr Rippon also said that Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, in his Budget considerations would have to give higher priority to regional policies as part of the general strategy.

Minister asks water bodies to cut charges

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The nine water authorities in England have been asked by the Government to cut their charges after an independent inquiry ordered by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Charges which showed increases ranging from 14 to 28 per cent under the original budgets are to be reduced to 12 to 19 per cent if the authorities follow the advice given by Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government.

The inquiry, by three firms of chartered accountants, was announced by the Prime Minister 10 days ago because of growing resentment at the size of the proposed increases.

The consultants' brief was to establish whether there was scope to reduce the levels. The chairmen of the authorities have seen ministers this week to discuss the findings, and meetings of each authority have been arranged to consider the request.

The Southern Water Authority, which had proposed a 16.2 per cent increase, yesterday agreed to reduce it to 12.6 per cent, compared with the Government's request of 12 per cent.

Thames, the largest authority, had proposed an increase of 14 per cent, the lowest among the nine. It has been asked to reduce charges by 1.5 per cent, which means a cut of £5m, and also to reduce its external borrowing requirement by £10m.

The authority is to meet next week to discuss the request against a background of resentment at what some members and officials see as unwarranted interference by the Government, particularly as they believe the budget has been drawn up as tightly as possible.

Among the other authorities, Wessex is thought to have been told to cut charges by 4 per cent from a proposed 15 per cent.

Letters that upset a judge return to Glasgow

From Ronald Faux
Glasgow

Some of the 500 "licentious" letters sent by Madeleine Smith to the French lover she was accused of murdering 124 years ago were returned yesterday to Glasgow, the city where they were posted.

The letters comprehensively upset the judge at Miss Smith's trial. He said they displayed "an unhallowed a passion as perhaps ever appeared in a court of justice."

Lord Hope, the Lord Justice Clerk, went on to rail at the lamentable state of mind that lay behind such letters; "certainly such a sentence was probably never before penned by a female to a man", he told the jury.

About 200 of the letters were presented on indefinite loan from the Scottish Record Office, in Edinburgh, to the Mitchell Library, in Glasgow. Copies will be on show with some originals and the bottles or arsenic and other artifacts from the trial.

The murder took place in 1857 and the prosecution quoted 66 of the letters in an attempt to prove Miss Smith guilty; the defence produced three letters to demonstrate her innocence. The jury found the charge not proven.

Most of the letters will be held in a vault because of their fragile condition but duplicates will be available. Dr Ishbel Barnes, of the Scottish Record Office, had the daunting task of reading them.

"They were extremely boring, tedious and repetitive. The English was very bad", she said. "I suppose moral standards have changed since the days when they were written."

Not only were they boring, but Miss Smith also followed the Victorian style of overlaying lines of writing diagonally on the same page, which made them difficult to read. None of them was dated and many were extremely long. Dr Barnes's criticism gave an impression that Pierre Emile L'Angelier, the lover, might well have died of boredom.

The Mitchell Library already holds 13 of the Smith letters. An official of the Scottish Record Office described her as a compulsive letter writer. The correspondence had been discovered by the sheriff officers in M L'Angelier's lodgings about a week after his death.

Sixty-one of the letters recorded by the Crown Office and not produced at the trial are missing and no one can say which particular sentence upset the judge or whether Miss Smith committed the murder. She was 21 at the time of her trial and lived to the age of 93, her lips sealed

Campaigner loses seat on LT board

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Mr Leslie Chapman, the campaigner against bureaucracy who was given the task of exposing waste in the corridors of London Transport, has lost the seat on the LT Board to which he was appointed by Sir Horace Cutler, leader of the Greater London Council.

Mr Chapman, a former civil servant, who wrote the book, *Your Disobedient Servant*, has been told that his unpaid post is to be terminated.

Since his appointment two years ago he has criticized the board and has complained about London Transport's performance.

An independent report into London Transport last summer supported many of his complaints. Since then Mr Ralph Bennett, the chairman, has been replaced.

Mr Chapman said yesterday that he felt he was being pushed aside, and that he had been accused of disloyalty. "I do not mind going off the board. I did not want to stay on. I only stayed on because Sir Horace asked me to. I have been axed. Sir Horace told me it was not intended to keep my appointment after March."

Sir Horace said that Mr Chapman had not been reappointed because his two-year term had ended in January. "He was put there to crack the nut and he did it."

10-mile oil slick seen

An oil slick about ten miles long was seen by the crew of a Royal Navy helicopter off Portland, Dorset, yesterday.

Union taken to court in TV dispute

By Michael Horsnell

An independent group of television producers is taking the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians (ACTT) to the High Court today over the blacking of a £500,000 series of programmes.

Hadmor Productions Ltd is seeking an injunction against the union in an attempt to force it to lift its ban on *Unforgettable*, a 13-part light entertainment series sold last *year to nine independent* stations.

After four programmes had been transmitted on Thames Television, ACTT blacked the rest of the series earlier this month because, it contended, the series should have been made in-house by permanent staff.

The consequences of the dispute could be far-reaching in their effect on independent producers. The new Channel 4 will depend on independent productions for a large part of its output.

On February 9 the television branch committee of ACTT blacked the series over "the use of facility companies for ITV productions", and it is now being withdrawn from trans*mission*

Mr David Heath-Hadfield, director of Hadmor, said: "Prior to the setting up of Hadmor Productions and during the making of the programmes we have had regular consultations with all the various unions that were involved, including ACTT.

"Having embarked on this series with the correct union members and using approved broadcast equipment, we find their objections difficult to understand.

Annan denial on disbandment of inquiry into London colleges

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Reports that the Swinnerton-Dyer committee on the rationalization of London University's non-medical colleges was about to be wound up or at least "muzzled" were firmly denied yesterday by Lord Annan, the university's vice-chancellor.

The rumours started after Lord Annan told a meeting of the committee on Tuesday, chaired by Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, that events were moving at such a pace that the committee should seek to produce a report by July instead of the end of this year as had been planned.

Several committee members felt that the July deadline made it impossible for the committee to continue, as it would be unable to come to proper decisions about the university's future academic organization within that time. All the committee members except the chairman are academics at the university.

It is known that Sir Peter seriously considered resigning as chairman.

Lord Annan has been under considerable pressure from heads of several colleges to disband the committee. They argued that they could do the job better and faster. Some evidently feared that their colleges would be threatened by closure, amalgamation or the loss of a department, as a result of the committee's recommendations.

The committee, which was set up last February, brought out a discussion document in December outlining the many difficulties confronting the university on the non-medical side. It estimated that over the next two years the university would lose about 10 per cent of its students and 15 to 20 per cent, or about £20m, of its income.

The crisis in the committee's continued progress was averted yesterday after Lord Annan appeared before an emergency meeting of the committee to "*sort out some of the misunderstandings on timing*" which had arisen at Tuesday's meeting.

In an interview with *The Times* yesterday, arranged at Lord Annan's request to clarify the situation, he said that he had complete confidence in the work of the committee. It had produced a first-class interim report, and he looked forward to receiving its final report.

There was no question of the committee being wound up, of his dismissing Sir Peter, or of Sir Peter resigning. Those rumours were despicable and pure mischief-making.

Lord Annan had assured the committee that it was at liberty to do what it liked, when it liked, although he hoped that *the report could be produced* [illegible] are moving at a remorseless pace".

Sir Peter, who was present at the interview, agreed that there was now much greater urgency for the committee to produce an early report. He could not predict how long it would take, but he thought they could probably produce "something useful" before the university's new academic year began in October.

He emphasized, to vigorous nodding approval from Lord Annan, that it would be "stark lunacy" for any college not to make immediate short-term economies on the ground that it would cut across the Swinnerton-Dyer committee's report. Any recommendations it made could not affect this year's allocation of grant, he said.

He agreed with Lord Annan that the Swinnerton-Dyer report could not be as clear-cut as the Flowers report on London's medical schools. The difficulties for the academic schools' future were far less precisely defined than those for the medical schools, and therefore did not lend themselves to such specific solutions.

The committee was not clear what form its proposals would take, but Sir Peter guessed they would take the form of a statement about what the university ought to be like about 1990; that was likely to include recommendations on closures, mergers and consortiums, though in some cases possible alternative courses of action might be proposed.

The individual colleges have been asked to submit formal responses to the committee's [illegible] The committee will take those answers into account when formulating its final report. A second interim report has not been ruled out, Sir Peter said.

'Censored' TV programme to be shown

By a Staff Reporter

The BBC television programme, *Panorama*, will be devoted on Monday to part of the 100-minute special programme on security in Britain that has caused controversy within the BBC, with allegations about censorship of sensitive material.

Monday's 50-minute programme on Britain's security services, under the title *MI5, MI6 and the Need to Know*, will include an interview with a former MI5 officer. A separate programme, on privacy, will be shown as an unspecified future date.

Oxford proposing an extra £400 for overseas students

By Our Education Correspondent

Oxford is proposing to charge overseas students next year £400 more than the Government's new recommended minimum fees, which are 20 to 25 per cent above this year's levels.

Under the scale proposed by the university's council all overseas students starting courses in the autumn would have to pay £2,900 for arts, £4,000 for science and £6,400 for the clinical year of medicine. Students who began last autumn would pay only the recommended minima of £2,500, £3,600, and £6,000.

The proposals have to be approved by Congregation, the body representing all Oxford dons, at its meeting on March 10. Last year Congregation caused a great stir when it rejected a council recommendation to charge overseas students £200 above the Government's recommended minima for 1980-81.

However, last year nearly all universities decided to charge the minimum fees, for fear of losing too many students, and this year many are considering charging above the minimum in an attempt to boost their income or reduce losses.

Cambridge led the way when its council decided last week to recommend fee increases £400 above the minima. Unlike the Oxford proposal, that new high fee will apply to all overseas students who started courses after September, 1980.

Technicians fined for private tests under NHS

Two technicians were fined by magistrates at Hendon, London, yesterday for carrying out tests at Edgware General Hospital laboratory for private medical sources while falsely representing that they were being done for the National Health Service.

Derek Dickinson, aged 47, former senior scientific officer, of Richmond Gardens, Harrow Weald, was fined £750 with £45 costs and Italia Sarah Franklin, aged 47, laboratory technician, of Barham Avenue, Elstree, Hertfordshire, was fined £500 with £45 costs.

Both admitted that between July, 1979, and January, 1980, at the Edgware Hospital they dishonestly obtained services worth about £571 from the health service by deception in respect of the analysis of specimens, by falsely representing that the specimens were submitted under the NHS.

*Mr Colin Hart, for the prose*cution, said that under the health service a doctor or hospital department wanting a specimen analysed could have it done, the forms being completed at the laboratory, the results sent, and no charge made. The facilities were also available privately, for which a charge was made.

Mr Alan Isaacs, for the defence, said there was no bar to the number of private tests that could be carried out, but his clients had overstepped the mark when they failed to complete the forms for the standard fee of £2 to £3. About 50,000 tests were carried out each year.

In brief

Girl is found dead after radio search

The body of Zoey Thompson, aged three, who disappeared from her home at Covle Road, Dalton, Huddersfield, on Wednesday, was found yesterday in a portable cabin a mile from her house. The girl wandered off as her mother was hanging out washing.

Three hundred users of Citizen's band radios, which are illegal in Britain, joined in the search after picking up an emergency call about the missing child from a Leeds operator.

Poison case defence to call no evidence

Rosie Swale, the yachtswoman, and her friend, Tracey Stamp, will not go into the witness box to give evidence in their trial on a poison charge, a jury was told at Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

Miss Stamp, aged 45, and Mrs Swale, aged 31, deny administering poison to Miss Stamp's former friend, Mr Keith Vincent. Defence counsel said they would be calling no evidence and the trial continues today.

MPs buy British

A £50,000 order was placed *yesterday with Wedgwood* Hotelware, of Stoke-on-Trent, for House of Commons crockery. Mr Charles Irving, Conservative MP for Cheltenham and catering subcommittee, said: "We are determined wherever possible always to buy British".

Bank robber jailed

Peter Cook, aged 38, a mechanic, of Duston, Northampton, was jailed for 12 years at Northampton Crown court yesterday after being found guilty of robbery of £16,000 from a bank. He was given a five-year concurrent sentence for possessing a firearm.

Cashier stole £3,473

Miss Karen Marley, aged 21, a cashier, was fined £100 by Marlborough Street magistrates in London yesterday for stealing £3,473 from the till of her employer, Garrard's, the jewellers. She admitted the charge.

Dublin fire toll rises

The death toll in the Dublin discotheque fire rose to 46 yesterday when Miss Josephine Glynn, aged 24, of Coolock, Dublin, died in hospital. Several of the 72 people injured in the blaze are in a serious condition.

21 held in drugs inquiry

Customs officers have arrested 21 people in London and the Home Counties for questioning about the suspected smuggling of drugs through Heathrow airport, London.

Stansted road link plan

Draft plans to link Stansted airport with the Birchanger interchange on the M11 motorway at the Hertfordshire-Essex border were published yesterday by the Department of Transport.

Plaudits for princess

More than 60 Conservative MPs yesterday signed a Commons motion congratulating Princess Anne on her election as Chancellor of London University.

Risk seen in way state aids universities

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

There was long-term danger in the system of state financing of universities, Lord Hunter of Newington said yesterday in his last annual report before retiring as Vice-Chancellor of Birmingham University. The system imposed uniformity in rates of pay for academic staff and in the proportion of senior to junior staff, he said.

Lord Hunter said that he became vice-chancellor in 1968, when student unrest was at its height and popular opinion about students had fallen very low.

Since then the roles had been reversed; the public now constantly invoked the barren philosophy of confrontation *while students had a respon*sible approach to their difficulties and future careers. He was not sure that the universities had as good a record for applying reason.

The continuing wrangle about overseas students' fees was a case in point. Five successive governments of both main political persuasions had tried to limit their financial commitment to overseas students, beginning in December, 1966, when the level was set at £250, against £80 for a home student.

Since then the universities had been fighting a vociferous and sometimes rebellious rearguard action on the issue. Some extravagant claims had been made about the benefits overseas students brought.

Lord Hunter said that although some of his academic colleagues might think the ques*tion was naive, he felt bound to* ask whether five governments could be wrong. Even if they were, "should we not recognize after this long period the overriding authority of an elected government which has to choose between innumerable conflicting claims upon its limited resources?".

He also had misgivings when reading a document by a national academic group which drew attention to the considerable economic value of research in universities and laid the entire blame on industry for not making use of such research.

Such apportioning of the blame filled him with dismay. "New technology is not an end in itself; it must be capable of economic application, and even where the technical conditions for this are right there are difficult sociological conditions to be met, as instanced by the many failures of the national newspaper industry to benefit from advanced technology".

Material used for radioactivity tests is missing

From Our Correspondent
Dunfermline

An investigation was under way yesterday at Rosyth naval dockyard, on the Firth of Forth, after a radioactive substance was missed from the top-security dock where the Polaris nuclear submarine, HMS Revenge, is being refitted.

The material is kept in a lead-shielded container, which is also missing. It is used to test equipment that monitors the levels of radioactivity in or near the Revenge's nuclear reactor.

The Ministry of Defence said: "An Admiralty board of inquiry has been convened. *While the material is kept* inside its shielded container there is no risk to the public. The material has a low level of irradiation in millirems."

The legal limit on the amount of radiation absorbed by a nuclear dock worker is five rems a year.

The material which is believed to have been missing for several days, is kept in a security store inside the health physics laboratory at the dock. It must be signed for when removed or returned by authorized workers.

A trade union official at the dockyard said: "We have been told there is no danger

Doctor counts the cost of icy pavements

By Our Medical Correspondent

The bumpy, slippery pavements typical of a British city after a heavy snowfall cause as many casualties as a big road or rail disaster, a report in the *British Medical Journal* says today.

During five days of snow and ice the Cardiff Royal Infirmary treated 118 more patients than usual with broken bones. Fractures of the arm bones and wrist occurred seven times more often than usual and broken legs were three times more frequent.

Dr Z. A. Ralis, an accident consultant at the hospital, who collected the statistics, calcu*lates that on average each day* of snow and ice meant 74 more patients with broken bones for each million of the population.

Those numbers require mobilization of medical and nursing staff and ambulances, yet nothing is done about prevention, the report says.

Many other countries with a snow and ice, such as Denmark, Germany and parts of Canada, have adopted a realistic approach, Dr Ralis says. The owners of each building, shop or house are made responsible for cleaning their pavements. Such a policy could be most effective in city centres and busy shopping areas.

Engines named after GC drivers who died to save trains

By John Chartres

The first two British railway engines to be named after drivers departed from Euston, London, yesterday five minutes apart, the first to Manchester, the second to Holyhead.

Both the Class 896 electric locomotives were named after men who had been awarded the ultimate civilian decoration for gallantry, the George Cross.

The locomotive hauling the 12.55 Euston to Manchester train was named in chrome letters on a scarlet background: "Driver John Axon, GC". That hauling the 13.00 Euston to Holyhead bore a similar name plate inscribed "Driver Wallace Oakes, GC".

Mr John Axon, from Stockport was the driver of a steam-hauled goods train running between Buxton and his home town on February 9, 1957. The brake steam pipe burst filling the cab with scalding steam, as the train approached the summit of a gradient over the Pennines. Mr Axon ordered his firemen, Mr Ronald Scanlon, to jump clear and attempt to apply the wagon brakes.

Both men had already made gallant attempts to penetrate a cloud of scalding steam on the footplate to close the regulator. The train eventually collided with another goods train standing at Chapel-en-le-Frith station.

By then Mr Axon's efforts in staying on the footplate and giving warning signals had enabled emergency action to be taken, thereby reducing the loss of life to those of the guard of the stationary train and Mr Axon himself.

A ballad about him was written by three local poets. It was first broadcast on July 2, 1958, and repeated yesterday by Radio Manchester.

Driver Wallace Oakes, from Crewe, was handling the Euston to Carlisle express on June 5, 1965, when a "blow-back" occurred on the footplate of his steam engine. Although badly burnt, Mr Oakes stayed at the controls and brought the train safely to a halt near Winsford, Cheshire, a place with a black ring round it in many railwaymen's memories because of two disasters on that stretch of line. He died from his burns seven days later.

Mr Frank Cannon, assistant general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, unveiled the name plate of Driver John Axon, and Mr Ray Buckton, general secretary of *the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen*, that of Driver Wallace Oakes. Each expressed pleasure at the new form of locomotive naming being adopted by British Rail. Relatives of both drivers were present.

Meeting today on disused line

Plans for the reopening of the disused railway line between Cheltenham and Stratford-on-Avon are to be discussed at a public meeting in Cheltenham today.

The Gloucestershire and Warwickshire Railway Society, formed nearly five years ago, hopes to operate a single-track service, beginning this summer.

Protest at switch of money from maternity fund

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Equal Opportunities Commission yesterday protested at the Government's decision to divert money from the maternity pay fund to the declining redundancy fund.

The decision showed that money must be available to improve maternity benefits, contrary to recent government statements, the commission said.

The Government intends to divert the proportion of employers' contributions now paid to the maternity pay fund to the redundancy fund, whose surplus of £144m last April has been rapidly reduced by rising redundancies.

But the Department of Employment has emphasized that it was a temporary measure and would not affect the amount of maternity pay received by working women.

The maternity pay fund has a surplus of £53m and on average pays between £30m and £40m a year to reimburse employers for maternity payments to employees. The commission pointed out last night that when the Government produced its consultation paper on maternity benefits last year it said there was no money available to improve maternity pay allowances or grants.

Britain had one of the worst maternity rights systems in Europe and any surplus should be used to improve maternity benefits. In particular, it should be used to improve the maternity grant, which has remained at £25 since 1969.

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Photograph by Chris Gregory

Earth-levelling equipment manoeuvring at the Big Pit, Blaenafon, Gwent, which is being turned into a deep-mine museum and tourist attraction. The EEC's regional development fund will provide nearly £230,000 towards the cost, out of a total of £3,194,367 devoted to Wales.

Half the people arrested last year in London were under the age of 21

By A Staff Reporter

Serious crime in London increased by 5 per cent last year and half the people arrested were under 21 years old.

The victims of robbery and theft from the person included 1,963 men and women over the age of 60, and 95 children under 10. The worst affected age group, however, was from 21 to 30 who numbered 3,384.

Mr Gilbert Kelland, Assistant Commissioner (Crime) of the Metropolitan Police, gave a warning that the increasing number of non-custodial sentences meant that many criminals were liable to be called for jury service despite their convictions for serious crimes.

The police expressed concern that the rise in serious crime was caused partly by a 20 per cent increase in robbery, 13,984 last year, compared with 11,636 in 1979.

Mr Kelland said: "Why do youngsters commit street robbery and attack old people? I do not know. The police officers who deal with them say there is little moral shame when they are caught. Morality seems to have gone out of the window, and that has been a monitor of society down the years."

The number of detectives will be increased in the next year, he added, but only in proportion to the extra officers recruited to the force. Last year the strength of the force was increased by about 900 to 23,691 but only 20 per cent of crimes were cleared up, a similar figure to 1979.

Last year 584,137 crimes were reported in London, compared with 557,378 in 1979, the first annual increase since 1977. Of 105,017 people arrested, 52,026 were under 21.

The number of assaults dropped by 2 per cent to 16,139.

Homicide figures rose to 204 last year, 25 more than in 1979, but that included the death of 37 people in a West End club fire last August. During the year 194 homicides had been cleared up, including those in the fire.

Burglaries rose by 8 per cent to 125,806, and fraud and forgery offences increased by 28 per cent to 33,172. Vehicle crime offences totalled 177,063, which was rise of 2 per cent.

Mr Kelland also reported a steep increase in robbery in the last quarter of 1980. The figures were up by 37 per cent, or 4,319 cases, on the same quarter in 1979.

Children aged 10 to 16, according to arrest statistics, carried out 14 per cent of all assaults, 30 per cent of robberies, 34 per cent of crime involving vehicles, and 24 per cent of criminal damage.

Review may thin ranks of top civil servants

By Peter Hennessy

Sir Geoffrey Wardale, former Second Permanent Secretary at the Department of the Environment, has been brought out of retirement to conduct a review for the Government of the top five grades of the Civil Service. It is expected to lead to a substantial winnowing out of posts and the possible abolition of the rank of under-secretary.

The aim of Sir Geoffrey's inquiry is not merely to reduce senior Civil Service numbers but to shorten the chain of command with a view to constructing a more streamlined and efficient hierarchy capable of despatching public business with less elaboration and duplication of effort.

The review will encompass administrative posts at permanent secretary, second permanent secretary, deputy secretary, under-secretary and assistant secretary levels. It will examine the vertical flow of work—who reports to whom and why—and the span of control exercised by officials at each stage.

Sir Geoffrey will advise the Government on the desirability of abolishing whole grades or of making a more selective use of the existing pyramid. In particular, the case for the partial or complete abolition of the under-secretary rank will be mooted.

He will be assisted by a Civil Service Department team led by Mr Sandy Russell, an under-secretary, and Mr Nicholas Gurney, an assistant secretary. All three met a delegation from the Civil Service unions on Wednesday and promised full consultation before any decisions are taken.

Senior scientific and professional civil servants are excluded from Sir Geoffrey's remit but his work will have implications for 40 posts at permanent and second permanent secretary levels, about 100 at deputy secretary, 350 at under-secretary and 1,150 at assistant secretary rank, a total of about 1,640 jobs in all.

He will concentrate on posts responsible for management and resource control as well as policy-making. Studies will be undertaken in a mixture of large, medium and small ministries including energy, customs and excise, industry, environment, health and social security, defence, national savings, export credit guarantee and the Home Office.

BBC rejects Saturday rating claim

By Lucy Hodges

The BBC yesterday rejected statements by independent television earlier this week that they had more viewers than the BBC on Saturday nights.

Mr Alan Hart, the recently appointed controller of BBC 1, said that unlike the independent companies the BBC could support its assertions with figures. In the first five weeks of this year 56 per cent of viewers were tuned to BBC on Saturday evenings, compared with 44 per cent who watched independent television.

He rejected suggestions that audiences for the corporation's Saturday night programmes were declining. *Jim'll Fix It*, *Nanny* and the *Dick Emery Show* were all drawing more viewers.

He agreed that independent television's football audience had increased since they started to broadcast that sport on Saturdays and that the BBC's move to Sunday broadcasting had led to a decline in the ratings.

The BBC denied yesterday that it was disputing the figures produced for the independent television companies by JICTAR. It was simply rejecting the interpretations by independent television.

The BBC figures are produced by its audience research department.

Mr Hart said he thought the independent companies' assertions earlier this week that they attracted the most viewers were not unconnected with grumbles from advertisers about ratings.

The BBC said it was not angry with independent television. Mr Hart said that the regular disagreement between them over the ratings would be sorted out later this year, when the joint Broadcasting Audience Research Board would come into being.

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Lords may hear plea over Harman ruling

By a Staff Reporter

Miss Harriet Harman, a solicitor and legal officer of the National Council for Civil Liberties, is to seek leave to challenge in the House of Lords the Court of Appeal ruling that she committed a serious contempt of court by showing a journalist Home Office documents that had been read out in open court.

The Court of Appeal, headed by Lord Denning, Master of Rolls, yesterday granted an application by counsel for Miss Harman for a certificate stating that a point of law of general public importance was involved.

The point of law is "Whether a litigant's obligation or undertaking implied by law in respect of the use which may be made of any of his opponent's documents disclosed on discovery in the action is correctly defined as terminating if and when and to the extent that any such document is read out in open court in the course of proceedings in that action, or is otherwise affected by such reading out".

An application for leave to appeal to the Lords will be lodged within a few days and the certificate granted by Lord Denning, sitting with Lord Justice Templeman and Lord Justice Dunn, will be used to reinforce the application.

Earlier this month the Court of Appeal ruled that Miss Harman had committed a serious contempt of court in letting a journalist see Home Office documents released by an order of discovery and use them in an article

"Perverted analysis": A strongly worded attack on Lord Denning's judgment in Miss Harman's case is made today in an editorial in the New Law Journal.

His conclusions are described as "about the most perverted analysis of the relationship between public interest in the proper administration of justice and the private interests of the individual in freedom of speech that we have ever encountered".

Lord Denning had gone out of his way to emphasize that the prisoner for whom Miss Harman had been acting in the case where the documents were disclosed was "a wicked criminal who had harassed society and was serving a long sentence for armed robbery", it says.

"To the extent that Harriet Harman was in contempt of court at all, as an officer of the court, would she have been less so had her client been a quite model prisoner?"

Lord Denning had also declared that no public interest was serve by the disclosure.

But he did not pause to consider what the case would be had the article been pro-establishment, before proceeding to his "most remarkable complaint" that the danger of disclosure was that critics of one political colour or another might seize on the information and seek changes in government policy or to condemn it.

The article says it hopes the Contempt of Court Bill will be amended.

Trousers plea by Sikh nurse

By A Staff Reporter

The Kingston and Richmond Area Health Authority is to appeal against a decision that it indirectly discriminated against a Sikh girl who wanted to wear trousers while she was nursing.

The authority is expected to challenge an industrial tribunal decision on the ground that Sikhs are a religious rather than a racial group and that Miss Tajwinder Kaur's complaint was therefore not covered by the Race Relations Act.

The industrial tribunal decided that Sikhs were a racial group

Miss Kaur was accepted for nurse training at Kingston Hospital but the offer was later withdrawn when she raised the question of dress with the authority.

She said she had to wear her trousers because of customs and religion,

Fourth Rampton nurse is charged

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

A fourth nurse from Rampton Hospital, Nottinghamshire, appeared in court at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, yesterday accused of ill treating a patient.

Harry Dexter, aged 59, whose address was given as Rampton Hospital, elected trial at Nottingham Crown Court. He is accused of ill treating Mr Richard Clive Winnik

The case was adjourned until March 5 for committal proceedings, Mr Dexter being granted bail.

Labour to fight renewal of terrorism Act

By Frances Gibb

The renewal of the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act next month is expected to be formally opposed for the first time by the Parliamentary Labour Party since it was introduced in 1974.

The Act, which comes up for renewal on March 25, is also expected to be allotted a half-day's debate instead of the usual hour and a half at night, because of pressure from the Opposition.

The Labour Party's civil liberties group opposes renewal. Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, MP for Ormskirk and the group's chairman, said yesterday: "This is a major new policy initiative.

"A lot of us realize that the Prevention of Terrorism Act is being used for purposes for which it was not intended. Many people are being detained and interrogated who have no conceivable connexion with terrorism, and as the figures show, very few are being charged.

"The fact that the Parliamentary Labour Party is now officially prepared to oppose renewal of this legislation means, at least by implication, that they are committed to its repeal when in government."

Several cases are pending against the United Kingdom for detention or exclusion under the Act. Mr Daniel Ryan, an Irishman who had lived in Britain since 1949, is contesting his exclusion under the Act in 1975 and has lodged a case with the European Commission of Human Rights.

If declared admissible for consideration by the commission, the case will increase pressure for he repeal of the Act.

The other cases involve two United Kingdom citizens and an Irish citizen, who are contesting their detention without charge under the Act. The commission has declared them admissible.

Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties, which has been in the forefront of the campaign for the removal of the Act, said yesterday: "This Act has now been in force for six years and is in danger of becoming permanent".

The number of MPs voting against its renewal had always been depressingly small.

Emotional farewell by cardinal in Paris

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 19

Cardinal François Marty took an emotional farewell of Parisians at Nôtre Dame last night at a solemn High Mass to mark his retirement after nearly 13 years as Archbishop of Paris. He is succeeded by Mgr Jean-Marie Lustiger, the Bishop of Orleans, a converted Jew born in Paris of Polish parents.

Cardinal Marty concelebrated with the Apostolic Nuncio, his two auxiliary bishops and the bishops of the Paris region, and more than 100 priests. His homily was met with a prolonged ovation from the large congregation. It was couched in the simple, direct, even rustic, style which has endeared him to many, even if it has been frequently criticized by the more sophisticated among his flock.

"My last message will be a quiet and peaceful invitation to hope. Whatever your age, or your past, or your station in life, I would like to say to you: 'Life is possible, hope is possible, love is possible'", he said.

He described the Second Vatican Council as "the greatest gift of God to the Church in this century". The council was not a code of dead texts. It was a spirit, a dynamism, a message, a task. It found its objective in the mission.

"This priority of missions I impose upon you as a spiritual testament," he went on. "The mission we have received sends us first to the side of the least privileged, to those alienated by want, to the service of the poorest in hope.

"Do not forget the mission of the Church in the world is to be messenger of God's compassion. Forgive my sins and my shortcomings. But remember that the church we have tried to be for you, for all, is the reflection in the world of the tenderness of God."

Turning to the problem of the priesthood, he said: "To be a priest today, is, I am a witness of it, a privileged way of loving. In a few days, I shall no longer be here (he is retiring to a convent in his native Rouergue, near the Pyrenees). But here and tomorrow, God still signs on workers." He ended with an appeal to the young. "Everyone speaks about you. Some speak for you. But have they really taken time to listen to you? I have tried to do it."

Spanish likely to face early election as Calvo support wanes

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Feb 19

It became clear tonight that Spain will have a minority Government, led by Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo. Both the Catalan Party and the right-wing conservative Democratic Coalition have indicated that they would abstain when the debate on his investiture as Prime Minister ends tomorrow in the Cortes (Parliament).

The new Government will be forced to rely on the fluctuating votes of various groups of MPs to pass its legislation. The prospect of an early general election is now much more likely, although the present Parliament is not due to go to the polls until March, 1983.

Señor Calvo Sotelo, who was a Deputy Prime Minister in the outgoing Suárez Government has found himself unable to muster enough support to obtain an absolute majority in the Lower House.

He will now have to wait for a second vote, due under the constitution to take place within 48 hours of the first vote—probably on Monday. Then a simple majority of MPs in the chamber will suffice.

Señor Calvo Sotelo's own Centre Democratic Union only has 165 MPs and he needed the support of 11 others for tomorrow's vote, but hopes of getting this support disappeared tonight.

Señor Miguel Roca, spokesman for the Catalan group of MPs, made it clear that the stumbling block was the Spanish autonomy process. But he offered to help the new government on measures that the Catalans approved.

The Basque Nationalist Party also indicated that it would not vote for the Prime Minister-designate, but looked to the possibility of supporting a coalition government at a later stage.

Señor Manuel Fraga, speaking for a majority of nine pro-autonomy MPs, delivered a tough speech ridiculing the proposed government programme.

This provoked Señor Jose Maria Areilza, a former Spanish Foreign Minister to walk dramatically out of the Chamber.

Señor Nicolas Redondo, secretary-general of the General Union of Spanish Workers, which recently achieved big gains over the Communist-led trade unions, said that the proposed government programme at best offered only solutions to Spain's economic programmes "at the workers' expense".

Journalists disagree over their protection

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 19

A plan to set up a commission for the protection of journalists under the aegis of Unesco, which has been under discussion this week at a consultative conference of representatives of 15 international organizations of journalists, has ended in failure.

The representatives of two American press associations—the Inter-American Press Association, and the World Press Freedom Committee—and those of the International Press Institute and the International Federation of Newspaper Editors, refused to entrust an international body with the security of journalists, on the grounds that such a commission would be ineffective and could constitute a threat to the freedom of the press.

The dissenting opinion which they published in the form of a separate declaration states that the "creation of an international organ which would determine who is a journalist should be rejected as an obstacle to freedom of the press".

This refers to the suggestion contained in the paper prepared for the conference at Unesco by M Pierre Gaborit, a professor of political science at the University of Paris-Nord, that the proposed commission would try to achieve better protection for journalists by "seeking common solutions in the field of professional ethics.",

He denied that there was anything in his paper which suggested that the protection of journalists should be subordinated to the respect of certain professional ethics; and he insisted that there was nothing in his draft which did not appear in all the declarations already adopted by Unesco on the problem of communications and the press.

But that in a way is precisely the trouble. American and West European journalists' organizations have always had misgivings about the activities of the MacBride Commission, which produced a voluminous report on "communications problems" approved by the Unesco General Conference in Belgrade last year.

The key issue which it faced was how to meet the legitimate desire of Third World countries for more balanced coverage of events concerning them by international — and largely Western—news media, without giving way to the scarcely veiled objective of communist countries to use this as an excuse for restricting journalists' activities and imposing a form of indirect censorship of news.

Ingenious EEC plan to meet conflicting aims

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 19

The package of farm price proposals, announced yesterday by Mr Poul Dalsager, the new EEC Commissioner for Agriculture, is an ingenious attempt to reconcile two essentially conflicting objectives.

The first is the demand of the eight million EEC farmers for a price rise of 15.3 per cent to offset what they claim was an 18.5 per cent drop in real income last year.

The second is the increasingly urgent need to prevent agricultural expenditure from growing faster than total budget revenue—and hence be able to release funds for other economic sectors of greater interest to the vast majority of taxpayers and consumers.

Price increases: The price rises recommended by the Commission range from 4 per cent for bread-making wheat to 12 per cent for flax and hemp, but the rises lie mainly between 6 and 10 per cent.

Milk and beef—two of the most surplus-ridden products—would both be kept to a 6 per cent price increase initially, but milk would go up by another 2 per cent on September 16, and beef by a further 3 per cent from the beginning of December.

Although the proposed price increases are higher than in recent years, Mr Dalsager and his colleagues think they are reasonable when set against what they estimate to have been a 12 per cent rise in farmers' costs last year.

Impact on food prices: The proposed increases refer to the "support" prices at which the EEC undertakes to buy up produce for which farmers are unable to find outlets in the market, without sellings at less than these minimum levels. The exact effect ofthese producer prices on shop prices is disputed.

Food prices in Britain, it is estimated, would go up by less than 1 per cent because the Commission is also proposing a 5 per cent revaluation of the "green pound", which would automatically cut British farmers' prices.

The net cost to the EEC budget, after allowing for "co-responsibility" savings, is put at no more than £90m to £100m up to the end of this year and about £230m over 12 months. Mr Dalsager said yesterday he was confident that this could be contained within the budget planned for this year.

Co-responsibility: The main innovation in Mr Dalsager's proposals is the general extension of "co-responsibility" — the doctrine that farmers can no longer expect open-ended support and must expect to pay part of the cost of the purchase storage and subsidized export of food surpluses.

This has always applied to sugar producers, and has been tried in a limited way in the surplus-ridden dairy sector. But the Commission now wants producer coresponsibility to be made stricter and extended to cereals, beef, olive oil, oil-seed, tobacco, fruit and vegetables.

In the case of milk, the existing production tax of roughly £2.45 a tonne would be maintained, and dairies which processed more milk in 1981-82 than the average of the previous two years would pay a punitive super levy of £46 a tonne on the excess.

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Racing driver charged with manslaughter

Milan, Feb 19. — Riccardo Patrese, the Italian Formula One racing car driver, and the former director of the race track where the Swedish racing driver Ronnie Peterson died in the 1978 Italian Formula One Grand Prix, were today charged with involuntary manslaughter.

Mr Peterson, who was injured in a crash in the September 10, 1978 race at the Monza autodrome, died in a local hospital two days later.

Judge Armando spataro, of Milan, who was investigating the accident, ordered the charges against Signor Patrese and Signor Gianni Restelli, the former autodrome director.

Judge Spataro said Signor Patrese tried to pass Peterson on the right side in a wide area of the track and to reenter the same lane. The manoeuvre forced several other cars, including Peterson's, to collide. Signor Patrese has claimed there was nothing illegal about his manoeuvre.

The charges against Signor Restelli said he waved the "go" flag too soon because some cars were still moving after having run a "recognition lap".—UPI.

W Germany puts up petrol tax

From Gretel Spitzer
Bonn, Feb 19

An increase in the tax on petrol and alcohol from April 1 was approved by the Bundestag today. The measure received the support of the Social Democratic-Free Democratic coalition but the opposition voted against it.

A litre of petrol will cost 7 pfennig (about 1½p) more and a litre of diesel 3 pfennig more. The tax on alcohol will go up to DM600 (£20) a hectolitre.

The Government expects to obtain an additional DM2,400m (about £480m) by way of these tax increases this year and DM3,700m the following year.

Herr Hans Matthöefer, the Social Democratic Finance Minister, said the increases were necessary in order to restrict the Government's need for credits; and also encourage energy saving.

Herr Wolfgang Schäudle, for the opposition, rejected the increases and said drivers were already hard hit by the increasingly high prices for oil.

The Bundesrat (Upper House) which has a majority of opposition members, is expected to reject the increases and take the matter to the arbitration committee. Its objection can, however, only delay the law in this case, and not prevent it.

Third member of family is abducted in Italy

Brescia, Italy, Feb 19.—A wealthy industrialist's daughter today became the third member of her family to be kidnapped in less than three years.

Signorita Elisabetta Gnutti, aged 21, whose family runs a metal business, was kidnapped outside her parents' home by five masked gunmen.

One of her uncles, Signor Enrico Gnutti, was released in 1979 after payment of ransom and another uncle escaped from his kidnappers last year. — Reuter.

Monastery on Mount Athos seized by rebels

From Mario Modiano
Athens, Feb 19

The Greek authorities are trying to evict from Mount Athos, an all-male monastic community in northern Greece, four monks who invaded and seized control of Karakalou, one of the peninsula's 20 main monasteries.

The gendarmerie intervened at the request of the ruling council of Mount Athos, on which all 20 monasteries are represented. However, the invaders barricaded themselves inside Karakalou, an eleventh-century fort-like complex and gave a warning that they would resist.

The four monks are led by Archimandrite Stefanos Lahanis, who had been dismissed as Abbot of Karakalou in 1973, after accusations of sacrilege. He appears to have taken advantage of a feud within the monastery

The gendarmerie posted on the barricaded gate of the monastery the orders expelling the four intruders, but there was no intention of using force for the time being.

When the gendarmes camped outside the monastery, one monk of the 11 known to be inside appeared at a window aloft saying that there "would be a massacre" if the men tried to break in.

Opposition to permanent Olympic site

Lausanne, Feb 19.—A Greek offer to move the Olympic Games to a permanent site in its ancient home is opposed by "a substantial segment" of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), a spokesman said today.

The IOC executive board will discuss a special commission report on the proposal in Los Angeles next week.

But soundings of the 83 IOC members show "there is clearly a substantial segment which disapproves".—Reuter.

Swiss and Britons have longest working week

Geneva, Feb 19.—The Swiss work the longest hours in Western Europe, with Britons not far behind, the International Labour Organization (ILO) reported today.

An ILO survey of working week trends in the 1970s said both were in a small group of industrialized countries with little or no change between 1970 and the end of 1979. The 1979 average in Britain was 44 hours for men and 37.4 hours for women. In Switzerland the average was 44.5.

Americans worked the shortest hours, an average 35.6 hours, followed by Swedes with 35.7 and Belgians with 35.8. The French and West Germans worked an average of 41.2 and 41.9 hours respectively.

The ILO said Third World figures were hard to get and the real issue there was not to cut working hours but to find 1,000 million more jobs by the end of the century.

The long working week in Switzerland does not seem to bother the Swiss, the ILO said, because a proposal to limit working hours to 40 per week was recently rejected in a national referendum.

Other figures included 37.6 hours a week for New Zealand and 40.7 hours in Japan.—Reuter and UPI.

US BUDGET

Mr Reagan calls for economic renewal

President Reagan presented his *economic proposals to Congress* on Wednesday and called on Congress and nation to work together *to restore the country's economic* health (writes Patrick Brogan from Washington). "I have painted a grim picture", he said, "but I believe I have painted it accurately.

"It is within our power to change this picture and we can act in hope. There is nothing wrong with our internal strengths. There has been no breakdown in the human, technological and natural resources upon which the economy is built."

He said that his proposals were "based on this confidence in a system that has never failed us, but which we have failed through a lack of confidence, and sometimes through a belief that we *could fine-tune the economy*".

In his peroration, the President said: "This, then is our proposal: 'America's new beginning: a programme for economic recovery.' I do not want it to be simply the plan of my Administration. I am here tonight to ask you to join me in making it our plan.

"Together we can embark on this road, not to make things easy, but to make things better. Can we do the job? The answer is yes. But we must begin now. There is nothing wrong with America that we can't fix."



The President preparing to deliver his budget speech to Congress.

This plan is aimed at reducing the growth in Government spending *and taxing, reforming and* eliminating regulations which are unnecessary and counterproductive, and encouraging a consistent monetary policy aimed at maintaining the value of the currency.

If enacted in full, our programme can help America create 13 million new jobs, nearly three million more than we would without these measures. It will also help us gain control of inflation.

It is important to note that we are *only reducing* the rate of increase in taxing and spending. We are not attempting to cut either spending or taxing to a level below that which we presently have.

This plan will get our economy moving again, increase productivity *growth, and thus create the jobs* our people must have.

I am asking that you join me in reducing direct federal spending by $41.4 billion in fiscal year 1982, *along with $7.7* billion in user fees and off-budget savings for a total savings of $49.1 billion. This will still allow *an increase of $40.8* billion over 1981 spending.

I know that exaggerated and inaccurate stories about these cuts have disturbed many people, particularly those dependent on grant and benefit programmes for their basic needs.

Some of you have heard from constituents afraid that special security cheques, for example, *might be taken from them.* I regret the fear these unfounded stories have caused and welcome this opportunity to set things straight.

We will continue to fulfil the obligations that spring from our national conscience.

Those who through no fault of their own must depend on the rest of us—the poverty stricken, the disabled, the elderly, all those with true need—can rest assured that the social safety net of programmes they depend on are exempt from any cuts.

The full retirement benefits of the *more than 31 million social* security recipients will be continued along with an annual cost of *living increase. Medicare will* not be cut, nor will supplemental income for the blind, aged and disabled. Funding will continue for veterans' pensions.

School breakfasts and lunches for the children of low-income families will continue as will nutrition and other special services for the ageing. There will be no cut in project, head-start or *summer youth* jobs.

All in all, nearly $216 billion—providing help for tens of *millions of Americans—will be* fully funded. But government will not continue to subsidize individuals or particular business interests where real need cannot be demonstrated.

And while we will reduce some subsidies to regional and local governments, we will at the same time convert a number of categorical grant programmes into block grants to reduce wasteful administrative overheads and to give local government entities and states *more flexibility and control.*

We call for an end to duplication in federal programme and reform of those which are not cost-effective.

Already, some have protested there must be no reduction of aid to schools. Let me point out that federal aid to education amounts to only 8 per cent of total educational funding. For this the federal Government has insisted on a tremendously disproportionate share of control over our schools.

Whatever reductions we've proposed that 8 per cent will amount to very little of the total cost of education. It will, however, restore more authority to states and local school districts.

Historically the American people have supported by voluntary contributions more artistic and cultural activities than all the other countries in the world put together.

Subsidies for industry to be cut back

I wholeheartedly support this approach and believe Americans will continue their generosity. Therefore, I am proposing a savings of $85m in the federal subsidies now going *to the arts and* humanities.

There are a number of subsidies to business and industry I believe are unnecessary; not because the activities being subsidized are not of value but because the market place contains incentives enough to warrant continuing these activities without a government subsidy.

One such subsidy is the Department of Energy's synthetic fuels programme. We will continue support of research leading to development of new technologies and more independence from foreign oil, but we can save at least $3.2 billion by leaving to private industry the building of plants to make liquid or gas fuels from coal.

We are asking that another major business subsidy, the Export-Import Bank Loan Authority, be reduced by one-third in 1982. We are doing this because the primary beneficiaries of taxpayer funds in this case are the exporting companies themselves—most of them profitable corporations.

And this brings me to a number of other lending programmes in which government makes low-interest loans, some of them for an interest rate as low as 2 per cent.

What has not been very well understood is that the Treasury Department has no money of its own. It has to go into the private capital market and borrow the money to provide those loans.

In this time of excessive interest rates the Government finds itself *paying interest several times* as high as it receives from the borrowing agency. The taxpayers—your constituents—of course, are paying that high interest rate and it just makes all other interest rates higher.

By terminating the Economic Development Administration we can save hundreds of millions of dollars in 1982 and billions more *over the next few years.*

There is a lack of consistent and convincing evidence that EDA and its regional commissions have been effective in creating new jobs. *They have been effective in creating an array of planners, grantsmen and professional middlemen.*

We believe we can do better just by the expansion of the economy and the job creation which will come from our economic programme.

The food stamp programme will be restored to its original purpose, to assist those without resources to purchase sufficient nutritional food.

We will, however, save $1.8 billion in FY (Fiscal Year) 1982 by removing from eligibility those who are *not in real need* or who are abusing the programme.

Despite this reduction, the programme *will be budgeted for more* than $10 billion.

We will tighten welfare and give more attention to outside sources of income when determining the amount of welfare an individual is allowed. This plus strong and effective work requirements will *save $520m next year.*

I stated a moment ago our intention to keep the school breakfast and lunch programme for those in true need. But by cutting back on meals for children of families who can afford to pay, the savings will be $1.6 billion in FY 1982.

Let me just touch on a few other areas which are typical of the kind of reductions we have included in this economic package.

The trade adjustment assistance programme provides benefits for workers who are unemployed when foreign imports reduce the market for various American products causing shutdown of plants and layoff of workers. The purpose is *to help these workers find jobs in* growing sectors of our economy.

And yet, because these benefits *are paid out on top of normal* unemployment benefits, we wind up paying greater benefits to those who lose their jobs because of foreign competition than we do to their friends and neighbours who are laid off due to domestic competition.

Anyone must agree that this is unfair putting these two programmes on the same footing will save $1.15 billion in just one year.

Earlier I made mention of changing categorical grants to states and local governments into block grants. We know of course that categorical grant programmes *burden local and state governments* with a mass of federal regulations and federal paperwork.

Ineffective targeting, wasteful administrative overheads—all can be eliminated by shifting the resources and decision-making authority to local and state government.

This will also consolidate programmes which are scattered throughout the federal bureaucracy. It will bring government closer to the people and will save $23.9 billion over the next five years.

Our programme for economic renewal deals with a number of programmes which at present are not cost effective. An example is Medicaid. Right now Washington provides the states with unlimited matching payments for their *expenditures. At the same time* we here in Washington pretty much dictate how the states will *manage the programme.*

We want to put a cap on how much the federal Government will contribute but at the same time allow the states much more flexibility in managing and structuring their programmes.

I know from our experience in *California* that such *flexibility* could have led to far more cost-effective reforms. This will bring a savings of $1 billion next year.

The space programme has been and is important to America and we plan to continue it. We believe, however, that a reordering of *priorities to focus on the most* important and cost-effective Nasa programmes can result in savings of a quarter of a billion dollars.

Coming down from space to the mailbox—the postal service has been consistently unable to live within its operating budget. It is still dependent on large federal subsidies.

We propose reducing these subsidies by $632m in 1982 to press the postal service into becoming more effective in subsequent years, the savings will continue to add up.

The economic regulatory administration in the Department of Energy has programmes to force companies to convert to specific fuels. It has the authority to administer a gas (petrol) rationing *plan, and prior to decontrol it ran* the oil price control programme.

With these and other regulations gone we can save several hundreds of millions of dollars over the next few years.

Now I'm sure there is one department you've been waiting *for me to mention. That is the* Department of Defence. It is the only department in our entire programme that will actually be increased over the present budgeted figure. But even here there was no exemption.

The Department of Defence *came up with a number of cuts* which reduced the budget increase needed to restore our *military balance. These measures* will save $2.9 billion in 1982 outlays and by 1986 a total of $28.2 *billion will have been saved.*

The aim will be to provide the most effective defence for the lowest possible cost.

I believe my duty as President requires that I recommend increases in defence spending over the coming years.

Since 1970 the Soviet Union has invested $300 billion more in its military forces than we have. *As a result of its massive* military build-up, the Soviets now have a significant *numerical advantage in strategic* nuclear delivery systems, tactical aircraft, submarines, artillery and *anti-aircraft defence.* To allow this imbalance to continue is a threat to our national security.

Notwithstanding our economic straits, making the financial changes beginning now is far less costly than waiting and attempting a crash programme several years from now.

We remain committed to the goal of arms limitation through negotiation and hope we can persuade our adversaries to come to realistic balanced and verifiable agreements. But, as we negotiate, our security must be fully protected by a balanced and realistic defence programme.

Let me say a word here about the general problem of waste and fraud in the federal *government.*

One government estimate indicated that fraud alone may account *for anywhere from 1 to 10 per* cent—as much as $25 billion—of federal expenditures for social *programmes.*

If the tax dollars that are wasted or mismanaged are added to this *fraud* total, the staggering dimensions of this problem begin to emerge.

The Office of Management and Budget is now putting together an inter-agency task force to attack waste and fraud. We are also planning to appoint as inspectors-general highly trained professionals who will spare no effort to do this job.

No administration can promise to immediately stop a trend that has grown in recent years as *quickly as Government expenditures themselves.*

But let me say this: waste and fraud in the federal budget is exactly what I have called it before—an unrelenting national scandal—a scandal we are bound and determined to do something about.

Marching in lockstep with the whole programme of reductions in spending is the equally important programme of reduced tax rates. Both are essential if we are to have economic recovery.

It is time to create new jobs, *build and rebuild industry,* and give the American people room to do what they do best. And that can only be done with a tax programme which provides incentive to increase productivity for both workers and industry.

Our proposal is for a 10 per cent across-the-board cut every year for three years in the tax rates for all individual income taxpayers making a total tax cut of 30 per cent.

This three-year reduction will *also apply to the tax on unearned* income leading toward an eventual elimination of the present differential between the tax on earned and unearned income.

The effective starting date for these 10 per cent personal income tax rate reductions will be July 1 of this year.

Again, let me remind you this 30 per cent reduction in marginal *rates, while it will leave the taxpayers with $500 billion more in* their pockets over the next five *years, is actually only a reduction* in the tax increase already built into the system.

Unlike some past tax "reforms", this is not merely a shift of wealth between different sets of taxpayers. This proposal for an equal reduction in everyone's tax rates will expand our national prosperity, enlarge national incomes and increase *opportunities for all Americans.*

Some will argue, I know, that reducing tax rates now will be inflationary. *A solid body of economic experts does not agree.* And certainly tax cuts adopted over the past three-fourths of a century indicate these economic experts are right.

The advice I have had is that by 1985 our real production of goods and services will grow by 20 per cent and will be $300 billion higher than it is today.

The average worker's wage will rise (in real purchasing power) by 8 per cent and those are after-*tax dollars. This, of course, is* predicated on our complete programme of tax cuts and spending reductions being implemented.

Taxation changes to increase investment

The other part of the tax package is aimed directly at providing business and industry with the *capital needed to modernize and* engage in more research and development. This will involve an *increase in depreciation allowances* and this part of our tax proposal will be retroactive to January 1.

The present depreciation system is obsolete, needlessly complex and economically counterproductive. Very simply, it bases the depreciation of plant, machinery, vehicles and tools on their original cost with no recognition of how inflation has increased their replacement cost.

We are proposing a much shorter write-off time than is presently *allowed. We propose a five-year* write-off for machinery—three years for vehicles and trucks—and a 10-year write-off for plants.

In fiscal year 1982 under this *plan business would acquire nearly* $10 billion for investment and by 1985 the figure would be nearly *$45 billion.*

These changes are essential to provide the new investment which is needed to create millions of new jobs between now and 1986, and to *make America competitive once* again in world markets. These are not make-work jobs, they are productive jobs with a future.

I'm well aware that there are many other desirable tax changes such as indexing the income tax brackets to protect taxpayers *against inflation.*

There is the unjust discrimination against married couples if both are working and earning, tuition tax credits, the unfairness of the inheritance tax—especially to the family-owned farm and the family-owned business—and a *number of others.*

But our programme for economic recovery is so urgently needed to begin to bring down inflation *that I would ask you to act on this* plan first and with great urgency. Then I pledge to you I will join with you in seeking these additional tax changes at an early date.

American society experienced a virtual explosion in government regulation during the past decade. *Between 1970 and 1979, expenditures* for the major regulatory agencies quadrupled, the number of pages published annually in the federal register nearly tripled, and the number of pages in the code of federal regulations increased by nearly two-thirds.

The result has been higher prices, higher unemployment and lower productivity growth. Overregulation causes small and independent businessmen and women, *as well as large businesses, to* defer or terminate plans for expansion and, since they are responsible for most of our new jobs, those new jobs are not created.

We have no intention of dismantling the regulatory agencies—*especially* those necessary to protect the environment and to assure the public health and safety. However, we must come to grips with inefficient and burdensome regulations—eliminate those we can and reform those we must keep.

I have asked Vice-President (George) Bush to head a cabinet-level task force on regulatory relief.

Second, I asked each member of my Cabinet to postpone the effective dates of the hundreds of regulations which have not yet been implemented.

Third, in coordination with the task force, many of the agency heads have taken prompt action to review and rescind existing burdensome regulations.

New challenge to nation to do the right things

Finally, just yesterday, I signed an executive order that for the first time provides for effective and coordinated management of the regulatory process.

Although much has been accomplished, this is only a beginning.

We will eliminate those regulations that are unproductive and unnecessary by executive order where possible and cooperate fully with you on those that require legislation.

The final *aspect* of our plan requires a national monetary policy which does not allow money *growth to increase consistently* faster than the growth of goods and services. In order to curb *inflation* we need to slow the growth in our money supply.

We fully recognize the independence of the Federal Reserve System and will do nothing to undermine that independence.

We will consult regularly with the Federal Reserve Board on all aspects of our economic programme and will vigorously pursue budget policies that will make their job easier in reducing monetary growth.

A successful programme to achieve stable and moderate growth patterns in the money supply will keep both inflation *and interest rates down and* restore vigour to our financial institutions and markets.

This is, then our proposal: "America's new beginning: A programme for economic recovery."

I do not want it to be simply the plan of my administration—I am here tonight to ask you to join me in making it our plan. *Together,* we can embark on this road not to make things easy, but to make things better.

Can we do the job? The answer is yes. But we must begin now.

Our social, political and cultural, as well as our economic institutions, can no longer absorb the repeated shocks that have been dealt them over the past decades.

We are in control here. There is *nothing wrong with America* that we can't fix. So I'm full of hope and optimism that we will see this difficult new challenge to its end—that we will find those reservoirs of national will to once again do the right thing.

I'm sure there will be some who will raise the familiar old cry: "Don't touch my programme, cut somewhere else."

I hope I've made it plain that our approach has been even-handed—that only the programmes *for the truly deserving needy* remain untouched.

The question is, are we simply *going to go down the same path* we've gone down before—carving out one special programme here and another special programme there. I don't think that is what the American people expect of us. More important, I don't think that is what they want. They are ready to return to the source of our strength.

The substance and prosperity of *our nation is built by wages* brought home from the factories and the mills, the farms and the *ships. They are the services* provided in 10,000 corners of America—the interest on the *thrift of our people and the* returns from their risk-taking. The production of America is the possession of those who build, serve, create and produce.

For too long now, we've removed from our people the decisions on how to dispose of what they created. We have strayed from first principles. We must alter our course.

The taxing power of government must be used to provide revenues for legitimate government purposes. It must not be used to regulate the economy or bring about social change.

Spending by government must be limited to those functions which are the proper province of *government. We can no longer* afford things simply because we think of them.

Next year we can reduce the budget by $41.4 billion, without harm to government's legitimate purposes and to our responsibility to all who need our benevolence. *This, plus the reduction in tax* rates, will help bring an end to inflation.

If we do not do this, inflation and a growing tax burden will put an end to everything we believe in and to our dreams for the future.

We do not have an option of living with inflation and its attendant tragedy, of millions of productive people willing and able to *work but unable to find buyers in* the job market.

We have an alternative to that, a programme for economic recovery, a programme that will balance the budget, put us well on the road to our ultimate objective of eliminating inflation entirely, *increasing productivity and creating* millions of new jobs.

True, it will take time for the favourable effects of our proposal to be felt. So we must begin now.

The people are watching and waiting. They don't demand miracles, but they do expect us to act. Let us act together.

Thank you and good night.

OVERSEAS

American commentary — By Patrick Brogan

President relies on TV mastery to overcome Congress

Washington

At intervals during last year's presidential election campaign, Republican candidates were asked how they could hope to cut taxes, increase defence spending, and balance the budget all at the same time.

Mr John Anderson said it was easy: "You do it with mirrors". *He was then drummed out of* the party and the candidate who insisted most convincingly that it could be done, without mirrors, in due course became President. He disclosed the secret yesterday: these contradictory objectives will be achieved by an act of collective faith.

The budget of 1982 was prepared by President Carter. It proposed expenditures of $740,000m (£308,000m) or so, and Mr Reagan wants to cut that by $50,000m. It is a very large sum, and because much of it will come from welfare spending there are already great cries of anguish.

But it is only 6.5 per cent of *the budget.*

Then Mr Reagan proposes to increase defence spending by $10,000m and he wants to cut the federal taxes by 10 per cent. He does not devote too much time to working out what this might mean in lost revenue; according to supply-side economists, cutting taxes promotes growth, employment and, therefore, tax revenue.

It also cuts unemployment and, therefore, federal spending on unemployment benefits, and is thus anti-inflationary. The President thinks that the *general national product will grow* by 4 per cent next year, and every year for his term of office, as a result of the measures he announced yesterday.

In his message to Congress, the President explained how this remarkable turn-around will be achieved. "The *programme we have developed*", he said, "will break the cycle of negative expectations. It will revitalize economic growth, renew optimism and confidence, and rekindle the nation's entrepreneurial instincts and creativity".

This is the Reagan credo, a declaration of faith if ever there was one. It denies all the realities, or what we have thought were the *realities* of American experience of the past half century, not to mention experience in other countries, such as Britain.

At the moment, the supply-siders are supremely confident. They have persuaded the President, and he is carrying out their prescriptions. The question *is what will happen if their* forecasts turn out to be wrong.

The first thing that will go wrong concerns Congress. Mr Reagan has a "mandate": he was elected with a big majority, and pulled along large numbers *of conservative Representatives* and Senators into Washington. He is immensely popular (so are most presidents just after taking office) and can appeal *to the people over the heads* of Congress, as few of his predecessors could.

But congressmen are not easily intimidated. The greatest of all presidential "communicators" was Franklin Roosevelt, *and he had the most sweeping* mandate of any president in American history. Congress refused to be panicked, for all that, after the first crisis of the 100 days was over.

The fathers of the constitution plotted and planned to prevent presidents from doing *what Mr Reagan wants to do.* The whole system of checks and balances of which Americans are so proud, is designed to stop Mr Reagan from having his way and changing things as radically as he wants.

He will not be *able to cut* $50,000m from the cherished programmes of the Federal Government; every cut he proposes will be contested bitterly, fought every step of the way over months to come. He will be *lucky if he gets half of them.*

The next snag he must face concerns the nature of his popularity. He is master of television, but television watchers *have a short attention span.* Everyone is a television watcher these days, and will soon forget Mr Reagan's homilies, and become bored if he insists in *repeating them every fortnight.*

He can appeal over the heads of Congress now, but in six months' time, when his proposals are in real trouble on Capitol Hill, his television ratings may be much lower than they are now.

If he is to have his "new beginning" he must do it in partnership with Congress. He told them as much last night, and he will have to spend a great deal of his time, for four years, persuading individual *Congressmen and Senators to* agree with him and override the wishes of their constituents.

The next thing that may go wrong with his act of faith concerns the electorate directly. A poll taken last week shows vast support for the idea of a balanced budget and doing all the good and general things that President Reagan wants.

It also showed, however, that on specific *proposals* there was no such majority. Everyone wants to cut something, but everyone has a programme he wants saved.

Mr Reagan is trying to persuade everyone to accept some loss of benefits (he has already given up the idea of reducing social security benefits). He *wants farmers and construction* workers, car workers and bureaucrats, as well as welfare mothers, to bear some of the burden. When the honeymoon is over, he is going to *find it very* difficult.

Lastly, the world is big and uncomfortable and things may happen quite beyond Mr Reagan's control or that of any American. Four years is a long *time. An "oil shock" destroyed* President Nixon's economic strategy in 1973, and Mr Carter's two years ago. It needs another act of faith to believe *that Mr Reagan will be luckier.*

Guarded British reaction to US role in El Salvador

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain is taking a very guarded line on the American request for support in its *policy on El Salvador.* Mr Lawrence Eagleburger, who is to be America's Assistant Secretary of State with responsibility for European affairs, was *given "a sympathetic hearing"* when he called on Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, at the Foreign Office yesterday, but no commitments were made.

Mr Eagleburger gave the British *Government* the latest American assessment of the situation in El Salvador and likely future developments, and *supplied information, including* documentary evidence, of the spread of Cuban and other communist involvement in the area.

Sir Ian Gilmour undertook to study the American information carefully. But it is clear that Britain will make its main response through the European *Community, in consultation* with its European partners.

The Community has already agreed to delay a decision on emergency food and relief aid to El Salvador, pending consultations with Washington.

Britain's direct assistance is very limited. Some technical *assistance is being given to 11* El Salvadoreans on training courses here, and a second instalment on an aid project totalling £75,000, for self-help *in housing, is under way.*

It seems unlikely that this minimal kind of help would be called into question. The British Embassy was closed *down early last year because of* the local security problems.

Asked about the British position on El Salvador, the Foreign Office said yesterday: "We condemn the violence on all sides and want to see a peaceful, democratic solution. We will continue to discuss with the Americans and our *European partners how best to* achieve this."

The fact that the new American Administration is engaging in such extensive consultations *with its European partners,* however, was "greatly welcomed", it was emphasized yesterday.

U S to cut funds for world aid bodies

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Feb 19

A senior official of the *Reagan Administration* has said that United States contributions to multilateral aid organizations are "not very cost effective" and as a result the Government plans to cut drastically its contributions to *these organizations.*

General Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, apparently agrees with the Treasury's plans to cut American foreign aid by 26 per cent next year and by more in later years from the levels proposed by former President Carter.

A full-scale review of United States participation in the World Bank and United Nations aid agencies has been launched. One most likely result, according to the senior official, is that the Administra*tion will oppose the idea of* establishing an energy bank to aid energy development in the third world, as advocated by Mr Robert McNamara, the *president of the World Bank.*

The official emphazied that the United States would abide by its international commitments to multilateral organizations, but *it might demand that* its contributions should be stretched out over a number of years. It was likely that the International Development Association, the *concessionary* loan affiliate of the World Bank, would not obtain United States funds swiftly and might face a crisis.

America's *allies* would have to come to the rescue of this agency if they wished it to survive, the official went on. He added that foreign governments were aware that the Reagan administration's first priority was to revive the domestic economy and that it was simply not practicable to go to the Congress now for emergency funding of the International Development Association.

The foreign aid cuts proposed amount to a reduction in authorizations by Congress of $1,854m (£772m) next year *rising to nearly $3,000m* by 1985. The Reagan Administration's forecasts show total authorizations for the coming fiscal year at $150m above the *1984 level* at $5,392m.

The White House will release details of budget plans for foreign affairs, including the budget of the Department of State, on March 10.

It is clear that in addition to cuts in contributions to multilateral organizations, the Administration *intends* to reduce bilateral aid by 20 per cent

Ugandan soldiers 'on rampage' missionaries say

Gulu, Uganda, Feb 19.—Rampaging Government troops and militiamen sacked two northern Ugandan villages and drove *10,000 people from their homes,* missionaries and government officials in Gulu said today.

They said that about 25 civilians were believed to have been killed as a detachment of the newly-trained Uganda National Liberation Army and local militiamen looted the villages of Adjumani and Pakelle last weekend.

Missionaries said 6,000 *people had crowded into the* mission stations in the villages and the rest of the population had fled into the bush.

Mr Otema Alimandi, the *Prime Minister,* and Major-General Tito Okello, the Commander of the Army, visited the villages today.

Three lorries, loaded with relief supplies, had already reached the villages, but more *are needed to feed people* who had taken refuge in the missions, the missionaries said.

Residents said the Ugandan soldiers appeared to be taking *tribal revenge for killings* during the Amin years of terror.—Reuter.

Church leader shot

Beirut, Feb 19.—Mgr Maxi*mos Hakim, Patriarch* of Antioch and leader of the Greek Catholic Church in the Middle East, was slightly injured when gunmen fired on his car east of Beirut today. Mgr Hakim, aged 72, was being driven to Zahle, a stronghold of the Greek Catholic community.

Conviction by religious court brings Malaysian Islamic dispute into open

From M. G. G. Pillai
Kuala Lumpur, Feb 19

An Islamic *sharia* (religious *court*) in *Trengganu* state, Malaysia, this week convicted a 56-year-old Malay *ulema* (religious teacher) of offences against Islam and jailed him for four months.

In so doing, it brought into *the open a simmering dispute* between the state Islamic authorities and a *powerful* group of independent *ulemas.*

The dispute is confined so far to Trengganu but there are fears it could spread to the *other 12 states. Although Islam* is the state religion, each state has full *control over the* administration of Islam within its boundaries.

Haji Mustapha bin Haji Abu Bakar faced charges of preaching Islam without a licence and issuing *fatwa* (religious rulings) *without permission. It was the* first case of its kind in Malaysia in more than 40 years.

A popular *ulema,* he attracted crowds of 10,000 during his trial lasting a year in a village near the state capital of Kuala Trengganu. Even with police roadblocks and strict security, some 1,000 of his supporters were present on the final day *of the trial.*

He is appealing, but his trial *underscores the dilemma of the* state authorities. The independent *ulemas,* of whom he is one, preach a fundamental Islam, often challenging official *fatwa.* It was his narrow definition of a Muslim which brought Haji *Mustapha to trial.*

The polarization between the *two groups became more* pronounced as the relatively backward state struck oil and became the centre of the oil industry in west Malaysia. The growing wealth of a few individuals, contrasted with the *poverty of the rest* of the state, has only accentuated the issue.

It has also brought *about an* official and unofficial system of religious administration. So *polarized* have they become that it is not unusual for *couples getting married,* for instance, to go through religious ceremonies conducted, separately, by the official and unofficial *Kathis* (religious judges).

The moral problems of development, corruption and the sudden acquisition of wealth provide the basis for the differences, which the independent *ulemas* are quick to exploit.

But equally important is the demarcation along political lines. For although the independent *ulemas* eschew politics, many of them are naturally drawn to the theocratically inclined opposition Pan Malaysian Islamic Party.

These independent *ulemas* exist in the other states as well, usually organized into small *groups espousing views of Islam* that conflict not only with those of the state religious bodies but other similar groups as well.

There is no coordinating body for these groups, and their views can run the gamut from the extremist group which attacked a police station in *southern Johore last October* to the very moderate one in Kuala Lumpur which believes only in encouraging the Muslims to return to the straight and narrow.

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US to cut funds for world aid bodies

OVERSEAS

Mr Callaghan urges Westminster to endorse Canada plan

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mr James Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister, made a surprise intervention in the Commons yesterday in support of the Canadian Government's plan to patriate its constitution.

To shouts of disagreement, mainly from the Conservative backbenchers, Mr Callaghan asked Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the House of Commons, to give an undertaking that there would be no departure from the precedent that a request from the Federal Parliament of Canada over the constitutional dispute would be met in full by the British Government with a favourable recommendation to the House of Commons.

Mr Pym, reflecting the concern of the British Government and its anxiety that this delicate issue should not damage relations between Ottawa and Westminster, said that no request had yet been received from Canada.

Adding that it could not yet be said with certainty that a request would be received, Mr Pym said that he did not think a statement at this stage would be appropriate nor would it be welcomed by the Federal Government. It was necessary to wait until its proceedings were concluded and if a request was then made, it would have to be dealt with.

But Mr Callaghan's implication that any request from the Canadian Government should be rubber-stamped by Westminster met with an angry response from some Tory MPs.

Mr John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest) said it was no service to Mr Callaghan's cause to suggest that MPs had no option. They had a duty to consider what might or might not be put before them.

Another Conservative, Sir Bernard Braine (South-East Essex), said that Mr Callaghan had made a surprising suggestion and that he was gravely misjudging the mood of the House if MPs were to be asked to approve and rubber-stamp such a request. it would be totally unprecedented without the full consent not only of the Federal Government but of the provincial governments of Canada.

Mr Callaghan replied that all he had asked for was that the British Government should act in accordance with convention. Of course the Commons must consider what was put before it and the House could make a fool of itself if it wished and turn the request down.

The convention, however, was that the Government should place this legislation in front of the House, if it received such a request, together with favourable backing, asking the House that it should be passed.

Mr Pym replied that the essential convention was a request from the Federal Parliament of Canada which had not yet been received. If a request were received, that would result in a situation of the utmost importance and possibly of difficulty.

The Government and the Commons would have to act in a highly responsible way and he was sure they would do that. But he insisted that it was not a matter to be pursued at present because it was still an open issue before the Canadian Parliament.

Pope attacks Asia's birth control policies

From Peter Hazelhurst
Cebu, Philippines, Feb 19

Asia's attempts to control one of the world's most frightening population explosions by encouraging the use of artificial contraception were vigorously condemned by the Pope today after he arrived in the city of Cebu, the site where Magellan was killed when he introduced the Philippines to Christianity 460 years ago.

He also made it clear that the church would refuse to lift its ban on marriages within the priesthood in spite of demands for a more liberal policy.

Declaring that the church "will never dilute or change her teachings on marriage and the family," the Pope told the Philippines, a country with an alarmingly high birth rate of 2.3 per cent, that people should be left to choose the size of their families without being subjected to economic or political coercion.

"Parenthood has a dignity all of its own, guaranteed by God himself. On my part, I owe it to my apostolic office to reaffirm as clearly as possible what the Church of Christ teaches in this respect, and to reiterate vigorously her condemnation of artificial contraception and abortion."

Like many other developing countries in Asia, the Philippines, with its large Roman Catholic population, is promoting a vigorous family planning programme which encourages sterilization, vasectomes and the distribution of free contraceptives.

In a veiled attack on Government policy, the Pope went on to attack forms of birth control, including recent moves in the West to legalize abortion.

"Whoever attempts to destroy human life in the womb of the mother not only violates the sacredness of a living, growing and developing human being, and thus opposes God, but also attacks society by undermining respect for human life, he said.

"If a person's right to life is violated at the moment in which he is first conceived in his mother's womb, an indirect blow is struck also at the whole moral order."

He also attacked the growing demands within the church for a more liberal policy on divorce and the ban on marriages within the priesthood.

China church move: The Vatican is considering recognizing the independent Catholic Church of China to try and restore the long-severed links with Chinese Catholics, Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, the Pope's Secretary of State, said today (Reuter reports from Cebu City).

He disclosed this to journalists while discussing the Pope's declaration last night that he was longing to visit China and meet the faithful there. "There are also some signals from China," he added without elaboration.

Cardinal Casaroli said there were doubts about the legitimacy of the independent bishops in China in the eyes of the Vatican. "But," he added, "what is illegitimate can be legitimized".

Before the much smaller independent Catholic church replaced the Roman Church in China numerous priests had been jailed or deported and church institutions closed.

Peking welcome: China's Catholic Church cautiously welcomed the Pope's unity call today but said formidable political problems barred any meaningful rapprochement. The communist Government ignored the Pope's remarks which were not carried by any newspaper, radio or television report.—UPI.

The West Bank—4: Frightening prospect of Jews shooting Jews in occupied territories

Labour Party priority is to reach agreement with Jordan

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Feb 19

With Israel's general election less than five months away, it is already clear that the most divisive issue between Mr Begin's ruling coalition and the opposition Labour Party will be the future of the occupied West Bank and its 720,000 Palestinian inhabitants.

Whereas the Government is committed to retaining Israeli military control over the whole area, the opposition—which pollsters predict will win a landslide victory—is pledged to try to negotiate a territorial compromise with Jordan.

"We simply have a different picture, not so much of the Middle East, but of the state of Israel", explained Mr Abba Eban the former representative at the United Nations who is likely to be the next Israeli Foreign Minister. "For us, Israel should ensure its Jewish and demographic character, even at the price of a certain measure of compactness. We oppose the idea of permanent Israeli rule over 1.2 million Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza."

Although the opposition has refrained from revealing its exact negotiating stance, it is known that a future Labour Government would be willing to relinquish possession of only about 80 per cent of the 2,200 square miles of Arab land conquered in 1967.

What has not been explained is how this policy will be reconciled with Labour's commitment to carry out Israel's obligations under the faltering Camp David framework, including the still deadlocked talks on providing autonomy for all West Bank Arabs.

Labour spokesmen have done little to disguise their pessimism about the prospects for the Camp David formula, and it is apparent that their energies will first be devoted to trying to open a dialogue with Jordan's King Husain.

"Without a microscope, it is very hard to determine the difference in the position of the autonomy talks now and that when they started in 1979", Mr Eban commented sarcastically.

Mr Eban also stressed that in addition to retaining absolute sovereignty over the Arab sector of Jerusalem annexed in 1967 (under a previous Labour administration), a new Labour Government would also flatly refuse to bargain over the occupied Jordan valley or the Etzion block, a strategic cluster of Jewish settlements situated between the Arab towns of Hebron and Bethlehem.

Despite veiled hints of secret talks in the past, Labour has so far failed to convince either Western diplomats or large numbers of Israeli citizens that King Husain would agree to talk under such stringent conditions. The King recently told *The Times* that he would not negoiate over "an inch of Palestinian soil or an iota of Palestinian rights".

Reinforced by his new alliance with Iraq, the King has repeatedly stated that he will play no part in talks which rule out discussion of annexed East Jerusalem.

But Mr Eban, one of the chief architects of Labour's so-called "Jordanian option" is undeterred. "It would be very surprising", he countered, "if there was an Israeli proposal which was acceptable—before negotiation—to anybody on the other side."

West Bank Arabs are also sceptical of the chances of Labour's policy achieving a breakthrough, noting that it rules out any dealings with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). "They are flogging a dead horse which before it was buried was known as the Allon Plan", said Mr Elias Freij, the Bethlehem mayor who is regarded as one of the more moderate Palestinian leaders.

"Why should the King act as Israel's policeman when he has no hope of getting back East Jerusalem, and when Israel has brazenly declared its intention of annexing those parts of the West Bank it will not give back?"

Labour is also committed to reversing the Begin Government's policy of building settlements in areas of dense Arab population. But serious doubts and divisions exist inside the party about how to deal with the scores of existing settlements.

The settlers are well trained and armed: they are also equipped with armoured vehicles, communications equipment and they have the blessing of the Israeli Chief of Staff, General Eitan. "It is by no means certain that Labour could order a non-politicized Israel army to pull the settlements down", explained Mr Hirsh Goodman, defence correspondent of the *Jerusalem Post*.

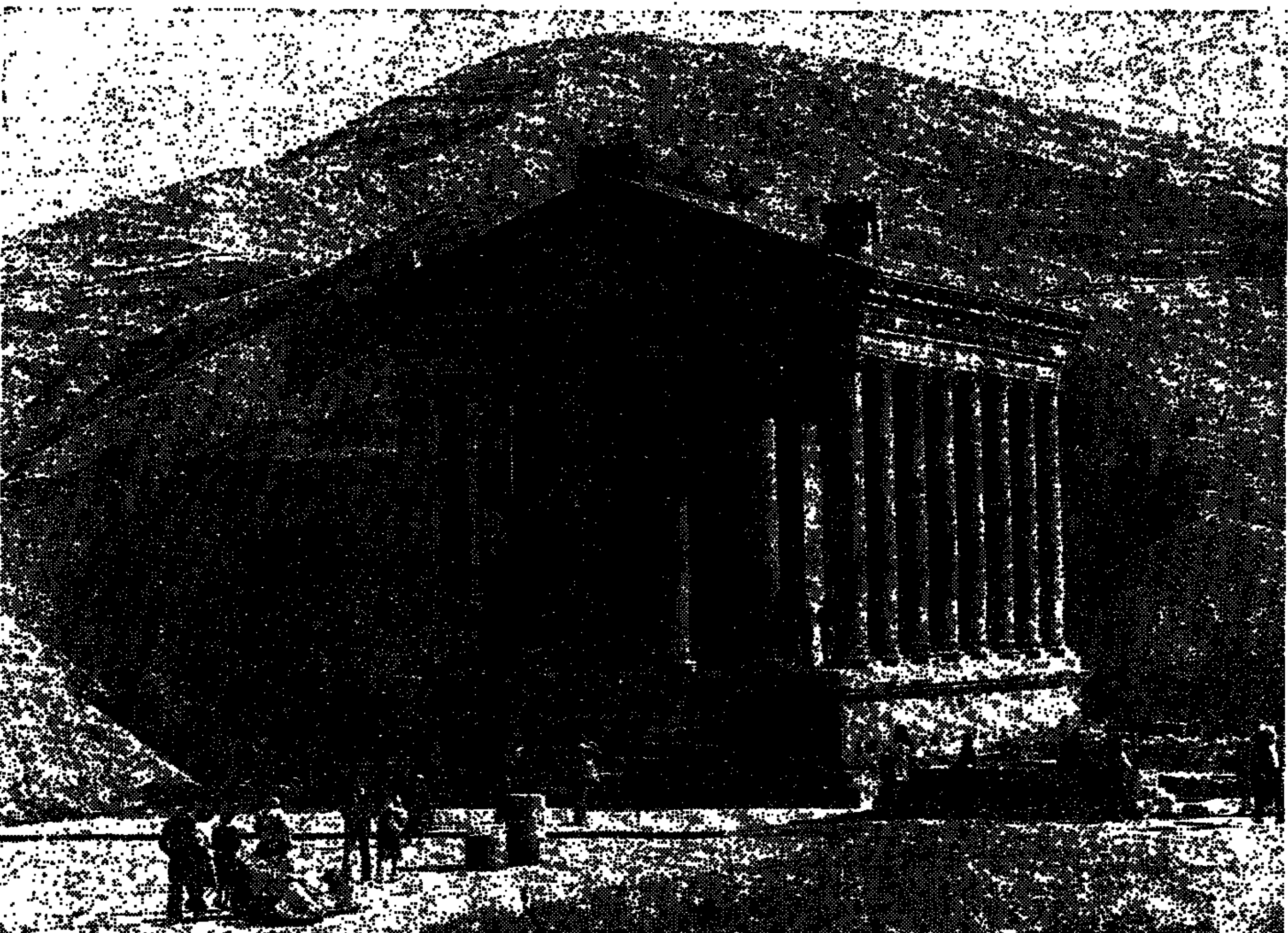
The frightening prospect of Jews shooting Jews in the West Bank led to much soul-searching at a recent series of private policy seminars staged by Labour's hierarchy. A senior member told one of the forums that any attempt to remove the settlers would make the 1948 Altalena affair (when the new Israeli Army killed 16 members of the Irgun Jewish terrorists) look like "a tea party".

Initially a new Labour cabinet is expected to cut funds to those settlements of which it disapproves. But even this measure could be frustrated if the party is forced into another coalition with the National Religious Party.

Some political observers now believe that faced with the prospect of internal party divisions and a threat to the unity of Israel, a future Labour Government's West Bank policy could amount to more of a change in style than in substance.

It is this possibility that is now worrying many local Palestinians. "Labour is much more subtle", claimed Mrs Raymonda Tawyl, a Palestinian activist from Ramallah who spent four months under house arrest during the previous Labour Government. "As Arabs, we are at least grateful to Mr Begin for unmasking Israel's real intentions."

The first three parts of this five-part series appeared on Tuesday, Wednesday and yesterday. The series will conclude on the feature page next week.



The temple of Garny in Soviet Armenia has been restored to its full glory by Armenian architects. Built in the first century AD, it was destroyed by an earthquake in 1679.

Kerr hope to settle again in Australia

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, Feb 19

Sir John Kerr, the former Governor-General, is back in Australia for the first time in three years. Sir John and Lady Kerr, who live in Surrey, are on holiday, but Sir John said he hoped eventually to settle in Australia again.

Sir John caused the greatest furore in Australian political history when he dismissed Mr Gough Whitlam, the then Labour Prime Minister, on November 11, 1975, on the grounds that Mr Whitlam had refused to call an election when the Opposition, through its majority in the Senate, had blocked Government funds. Sir John installed Mr Malcolm Fraser, then the Opposition leader, as caretaker Prime Minister.

Mr Fraser won the election in December, 1975, with a record majority in the House of Representatives and he has subsequently won two further elections.

Sir John's actions, however, made him a vilified figure in public life and his presence at official functions was enough to provoke crowds into displaying open hostility. A huge police cordon was required when he appeared in public and the Governor-General's car was frequently pelted with eggs and paint.

In February, 1978, he was appointed Australia's representative in Unesco, based in Paris. But public reaction was so strong in Australia that he held the position for only two days. He and his wife then bought a house in England.

In Canberra yesterday, Sir John said that he hoped to return to Australia to live.

"We are going back to England after a very pleasant private holiday in Sydney. But later on we confidently hope and believe we will be arranging to come back and settle permanently in Sydney.

"We have a home in Surrey and we will have to think about matters of timing, but we have no need to decide this at this stage".

Sir John said he had had a "social lunch" as the guest of Mr Fraser but the main purpose of his Canberra visit was to study archives relating to his personal papers.

"Other interesting matters have also come up for thought and attention", he said.

The couple are due to return to England later this month. So far there has been no demonstration against their presence in Australia.

Patriation opposed by provincial premier

From John Best
Ottawa, Feb 19

Mr Allan Blakeney, the Premier of Saskatchean, today came out against the attempt by Mr Pierre Trudeau to patriate the Canadian constitution from Britain.

Mr Blakeney officially announced his opposition one day after four members of the Federal Parliament from Saskatchewan belonging to his New Democratic Party (NDP) rebelled and announced that they would vote against the measure in the House of Commons.

Mr Edward Broadbent, the federal leader of the left-wing NDP, supports the Trudeau plan. The four rebels include Mr Lorne Nystrom, the party whip and constitutional affairs critic. They contend that the central government's unilateral action on constitutional patriation is out of keeping with Canada's status as a federation.

Mr Blakeney, a widely respected moderate in the constitutional debate now wracking Canada, had been assiduously wooed by the Liberal federal Government to support the patriation proposal. Today in Regina however, Mr Blakeney called a press conference to put on the record "with sorrow" his provincial government's opposition. Altogether, eight of Canada's 10 provinces reject the federal plan.

Yesterday's defections among NDP Members of Parliament do not directly imperil Mr Trudeau's grand design for getting the Canadian Parliament to petition the British Parliament to give Canada total control over the British North America Act of 1867, Canada's constitution, after attaching an amending formula and a bill of rights.

The Liberals, with their absolute majority in the 282-member Commons and with the remainder of the 32-member NDP group, have more than enough voting strength to push through the measure against the Conservatives.

Nevertheless, the revolt deprives support of the west for the plan

The Government regards NDP support as a form of surrogate Liberal backing for the constitutional package which helps give it more legitimacy nationally.

The rebellion apparently has been contained, however. One of 12 NDP members from British Columbia, Mr. Svend Robinson, who had been expected to break ranks with his party leadership, announced yesterday that he intended to vote for the patriation plan.

Malta opposition warning on courts reform Bill

rom Our Correspondent
alletta, Feb 19

Dr Eddie Fenech Adami, the ader of the opposition ationalist Party, said yesterly that under the Maltese ourts reform Bill citizens who ould seek the protection of the ourts when they most needed . that is when wronged by the overnment, would not find it.

Addressing the party's ctional committees Mr Fenech dami added that it might be fficult for lay people to grasp e implications of the new law y which it will no longer be ssible for private citizens to ie the Government except on me technical points) but it as proving difficult even for wyers the more one read and read it, the more numerous ere the dangerous consequens that came to light.

He recalled that none of the nstitured bodies and free ade unions (the General orkers Union forms a united ont with the Government) had accepted the invitation of Mr Dom Mintoff, the Prime Minister, to take part in a broadcast discussion with him on the law.

They replied that they had already made known their serious objections and that the proper place for the discussion of the law was Parliament.

He added that even *The Times* of London had considered that it should write a leading article on the subject. As a result the Maltese Attorney General had written to the paper saying that the law would bring Malta's position in line with that of England because the courts would retain the right to consider whether the Government acted ultra vires. The only difference would be that there would be a written law.

Mr French Adami said this was not true because the law would now specify and therefore limit the cases when something done by the Government was ultra vires.

Royal College of Psychiatrists' offer to dissident

By Nicholas Timmins

The Royal College of Psychiatrists has taken the unusual step of offering membership to Dr Semyon Gluzman, a Ukrainian dissident psychiatrist in exile in Siberia.

The invitaton, on the basis that he is a "medical graduate of exceptional distinction", is a further attempt to bring pressure on the authorities in the Soviet Union to release Dr Gluzman, aged 34, who has spent seven years in a labour camp and is serving a three-year exile in Siberia, due to end in May, 1982.

The college says his sentence is harsh even by Soviet standards and was given for opposing the "treatment" of mentally well individuals solely because of their views, although the charge was one of circulating a *samizdat* document on one particular case.

It is the first time the college has offered a membership to a dissident.

While in exile, the college says, Dr Gluzman cannot practise as a doctor and has to do menial tasks. When in the labour camp, he wrote a manual for dissidents together with Mr Vladimir Bukovsky, a dissident now in the West, advising them on how to avoid being diagnosed mentally ill.

Zaire Cabinet is reshuffled

Paris, Feb 19.—President Mobutu of Zaire has reshuffled his government, naming Mr Bomboko Lokumba as Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the Zaire news agency said in a report monitored here yesterday.

Mr Bomboko, who served as Foreign Minister in the 1960s, was also named Deputy Prime Minister, a new post created in the reshuffle, the agency added. He was stripped of his powers in the early seventies, reportedly because of an alleged plot against the President.—Agence France-Presse.

Moscow increases number of exit visas for Jews

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 19

After a virtual ban this year on the emigration of Jews, the Soviet authorities have unexpectedly begun granting a large number of exit visas. According to Jewish sources up to 10 times the usual number have received visas in the past three weeks, and some who have been waiting for years have suddenly been told they may leave.

The exodus may be only temporary, and it is not clear whether it is confined to Moscow or represents a general trend throughout the country. There are reports that two weeks ago on some days as many as 100 people were granted visas, which would suggest a total of about 1,500 to 2,000 for the month. This compares with a total of about 21,000 for the whole of 1980.

The increase in the number of exit visas being granted coincides with the release of Mr Josef Mendelevich, the last man to be freed of a group of Jews which tried to hijack a Soviet aircraft 11 years ago.

He arrived yesterday in Vienna, after being released from a labour camp more than a year before the end of the sentence.

Western observers are cautious about attributing the increase in emigration to any single cause. But the most likely, and the reason for the clemency to Mr Mendelevich, is the Helsinki accords review conference in Madrid, at which the Soviet record in human rights and emigration is being discussed.

It has also been suggested that since Jewish emigration is so closely linked with Soviet policy towards the United States, and senatorial attitudes to the Russians, the increase was planned as a good-will gesture to coincide with the installation of Mr Ronald Reagan as President.

Although it is now clear to the Russians that the Republican Administration is not likely to be impressed by such gestures, it takes the Soviet Bureaucracy some time to switch policies.

The party congress, which opens here on Monday, is probably also an influential factor. Some 5,000 delegates will come from all over the country and from abroad. As before the summer Olympics, the Russians are probably anxious to rid the capital of potential trouble makers, and suggest to applicants that they may be allowed to leave if they do not cause problems.

Russia objects to postmark on Israel mail

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Feb 19

The Soviet Post Office this month refused to accept about 1,000 items from Israel, apparently because it disapproved of a postmark containing an appeal for contributions to the Israel Security Fund.

The first 250 rejected letters returned to Israel from Moscow on February 5 and further packets followed in the next fortnight.

No explanation was given, but the Soviet addresses on the rejected mail were crossed out and arrows pointed to the postmark containing the appeal in Hebrew and the Israel Army insignia, a sword and an olive branch. The Israelis this week removed the postmark from their electronic sorting machines.

Former Uganda chief justice gets Hongkong post

rom Our Correspondent
ongkong, Feb 19

The former Ugandan Chief istice in the Idi Amin era is w working as a suburban agistrate in Hongkong. Mr uhammad Seid, who had been pointed High Court Justice Uganda in 1974, joined npokong bench last month. e himself reported the ppointment on Hongkong telesion last night.

Admitting that it was "quite step down" to work as a agistrate after having been a ief justice, Mr Seid said that took up the job "because it ve me a chance to start my dicial career afresh."

Syrian leader urged to let young Jewish women emigrate

From Robert Fisk
Damascus, Feb 19

The leader of Syria's small, but culturally unique Jewish community today appealed to President Assad to allow more than 100 Jewish girls to leave the country in order to marry abroad.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Selim Totah, president of the Jewish Community Council in Damascus, pleaded with the President to ease the restrictions on emigration from Syria so that the girls, all aged between 20 and 25, could travel to America or Europe to find husbands.

The sensitive issue of Jewish emigration from Syria is a fraught and highly controversial one for President Assad's government. Jewish organizations abroad—and especially Israelis—claim that the 5,000 Jews of Syria are effectively held as hostages by the Damascus regime, and virtually forbidden to travel abroad for fear that they will go to Israel.

The Syrian government denies this and claims that Jews live with the same rights, and restrictions, as any other Syrian citizen. When the President permitted 12 Jewish girls to emigrate to America two years ago it was treated as a major concession by the government.

Mr Totah, an elderly, grey-haired Jew with a pencil-thin moustache and a long, grey overcoat, spoke slowly and with emotion during our conversation, which took place in the staff room of a Jewish school behind the Damascus bazaar, and in the magnificent, chandeliered synagogue of El Ferenje, near the Omayyad mosque.

As we walked through the narrow, muddy lanes of the old Jewish quarter in company with the Chief Rabbi, Mr Ibrahim Hamra, Jews of all ages greeted the two religious leaders, speaking always in Arabic, because Hebrew is used here only for prayers and religious readings.

Nevertheless, the interview with Mr Totah was an occasionally fragile dialogue, enlivened only by his extraordinary bursts of humour.

Three Syrian government officials, two from the Ministry of Education and one from the Ministry of Information, were present throughout the conversation, and Mr Totah often adopted a gentle, almost elliptical pattern of speech which sometimes produced opaque answers to somewhat pointed questions.

He said repeatedly that President Assad had done much for Syria's Jewish communty an dthat his coreligionists had equal rights with all other citizens. "We are Syrian Arab citizens", he said. "We were born in Syria. I am very jealous about my Syrian nationality. We have all our rights. There used to be restrictions upon us until five years ago, but they have been lifted, thanks to President Assad.

"But we have one problem which is for us the problem of problems. We have between 100 and 150 girls between 20 and 25 years old. They want to get married, but unhappily the housing crisis here and the high cost of living has made marriage very difficult.

"As you know, young men need money to get married and our young men prefer girls of between 18 and 20. The only solution, which we think about day and night, is that the older girls should be able to travel abroad to have a better chance of marriage.

"Some time ago, his Excellency the President gave his approval for 12 girls to leave for the United States. They went there and were all married. That is why the girls who are 25 are always asking the authorities, and especially the President, to open the door for them so that they can find a better future.

"We hope your visit will be of help to us. I would like to thank the President for all he has done for us as a community, and for the whole country. We do not complain about anything except this problem. But deeds are not evaluated until they have been completed, and we are demanding that these girls be given a good future."

There was a silence in the schoolroom, which Mr Totah broke by bursting into laughter. He turned to the woman ministry official who was acting as interpreter and suddenly raised her hand to his lips. "Even I am unmarried," he said to her. "So perhaps this lady will marry me."

Brittle laughter echoed around the crowded room, and it was Mr Totah who gently stilled it. He nodded towards a young Jewish woman, a teacher in the school, who was sitting on the far side of the room. She was oval-faced and wore a blue cardigan and jeans. "She wants to go and get married."

The woman blushed and murmured: "I have an uncle in Canada." Had she asked to go and see him? "Yes," she said. Had she been given permission? She smiled and shook her head.

The Syrian government is well aware of the political implications of any request for Jewish emigration. Mr Ahmed Iskander Ahmed, the Syrian Minister of Information, insisted in an interview with *The Times* that all government restrictions on Jews—including the special religious denomination section for Jews on Syrian identity cards—had been cancelled more than two years ago.

It was true, he said, that there was a financial bond Jews had to pay to the government if they wanted to travel abroad, but every Syrian citizen pays this, whatever his religion. The bond applies to me, too.

FOREIGN REPORT

How prompt Reagan backing helps Korea's strongman

Next Wednesday Chun Doo Hwan, a 50-year-old former paratroop general, will be elected President of South Korea. According to the revised constitution the President is chosen by members of an electoral college. Voting for the college took place on February 11 and gave General Chun's party nearly 70 per cent of the seats.

Six days after his election General Chun will be inaugurated President with pomp and circumstance in Seoul. Elections to the National Assembly will follow a few weeks later and the fifth republic—in General Chun's eyes the embodiment of a new era in South Korean history—will be well and truly launched.

These events are the final stages of a campaign to legitimize the general's seizure of power after the assassination of President Park Chung Hee in October 1979. General Chun emerged as the new military strongman in an army putsch in December of that year and, as the recently appointed head of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, was the chief target of huge student demonstrations a few months later.

The country's tentative steps towards a more liberal form of government after years of dictatorship under President Park were abruptly halted on May 18, when martial law was extended and political leaders, among them Mr Kim Dae Jung, were arrested. A rebellion broke out in Cholla, Mr Kim's native province, and was brutally suppressed by the Army.

From then on the generals controlled the country through a Special Committee for National Security Measures. Reporting to this was a standing committee under General Chun's chairmanship which initiated a massive "social purification" campaign.

In the drive to "reeducate" the population and eliminate political opponents, more than 57,000 people were arrested and about 3,000 sentenced to prison terms. In addition, 8,000 civil servants, employees of state industries, journalists, university teachers and members of other professions were sacked on charges of corruption and incompetence.

The axe fell on ministers and former ministers, members of the National Assembly and officers of the KCIA. The mass media were drastically reorganized by the forced amalgamation of broadcasting companies, newspapers and news agencies.

Choi Kyu Hah, who as President Park's last Prime Minister had succeeded to the presidency after his death, resigned in August.

General Chun retired from the Army a few days later and was elected President, unopposed, by the National Conference for Unification, the body designated for this task under President Park's Yushin constitution.

A Bill to revise the constitution was completed in late September and overwhelmingly endorsed in a referendum on October 22. New political parties came into being to contest seats for the electoral college and the National Assembly.

Having assured his supremacy at home General Chun received the welcome accolade of an invitation to the United States from President Reagan. Before leaving for Washington at the end of last month he lifted martial law in preparation for the elections and commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence passed on Mr Kim Dae Jung.

General Chun returned from his visit with pledges from the new Administration that American ground troops and aircraft would remain in South Korea and promises of help in strengthening his own forces, notably in the shape of F16 fighters.

Such forthright and prompt support from his main ally has given his foreign policy a flying start and, with the death sentence on Mr Kim repealed, the general is now in a good position to mend fences with his country's other dominant partner, Japan.

General Chun is thus about to embark on a seven-year term as President with his supporters jubilant and his opponents cowed. His own political group, the Democratic Justice Party, is unlikely to be seriously challenged in the National Assembly.

Mr Yoo Chi Song, president of the Democratic Korea Party, the largest of the opposition groups, told me that because of the threat from North Korea the country could not afford the kind of political confrontation that exists in the United States and Europe.

There is much talk of Confucian ethics and constructive dialogue. To Western eyes the whole thing appears a travesty of a multi-party system.

Opposition is more likely to come from the students, who are at present dormant but are not reconciled to General Chun, the bogeyman of their demonstrations last year.

Another potential source of trouble is labour, particularly if the Government fails to control inflation and real wages continue to fall. Korean workers are young—three quarters of those in manufacturing are under 29—and heavily concentrated in the five main towns of Seoul, Pusan, Taegu, Taejon and Kwangju. One expert described them as "a time bomb".

The churches have a notable record of opposition to dictatorship in South Korea. The Christian Broadcasting System, run by the Protestants, has been restricted to religious programmes only and has had nearly all its previous revenue cut off by the banning of commercials.

Church leaders are keeping a low profile but they continue to insist that a concern for human rights goes hand in hand with preaching the Gospel. There are about 8,000,000 Christians in South Korea, between one quarter and one fifth of the population, and it is impossible for the Government to ignore them.



General Chu Doo Hwan in his army days.

Simon Scott Plummer

Legislation curbs Finland's reckless drivers

Road deaths in Britain have crept slightly downwards in the past decade, while in Finland the rate has been halved. Safety publicity has helped reduce road fatalities in both countries, but introduction of strong laws on seat belts, speed limits and drunken driving are the main reason for Finland's dramatic achievement.

Active road safety campaigns and new legislation have led to a 50 per cent fall in road deaths in Finland. In 1972, 1,156 people were killed on the roads. Last year the figure was down to 570, and the downward trend is expected to continue.

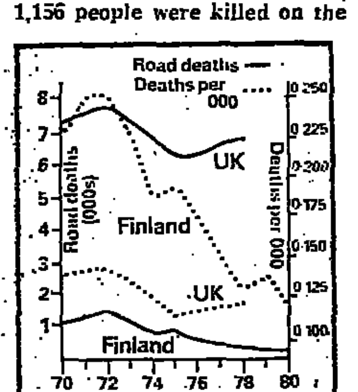


Chart shows big decline in Finnish road deaths between 1970 and 1980, both in absolute figures and in relation to the increasing population. In Britain and Finland, the number of vehicles on the road has risen steadily.

These are absolute figures, and the achievement is even more impressive considering that the volume of traffic increased by 35 per cent in the same period.

According to Mr Knut Aas, chief of the national Highway Patrol, the positive trend was a result of several factors. The single most important one was new legislation, especially on lower speed limits and the compulsory use of front seat belts.

Seat-belt use was made compulsory in 1975, but it has been a non-punishable offence. According to the new Road Safety Act, due to take effect in November, refusal to wear belts will be punished like any other motoring offence. From the beginning of this year, seat belts have been compulsory on the back seats of new cars.

Speed limits were lowered in 1975 so that on most main roads the limit is 50mph. On trunk roads it is 63mph and on motorways 75mph. In built-up areas it is 30mph.

Finns, who are well known from rally driving, had also gained notoriety as reckless drivers. New speed limits initially caused much grumbling, but today they are generally accepted.

Drunken driving is also strictly limited. Any driver is liable to prosecution if his alcohol level exceeds 50 mg of alcohol per millilitre of blood. A prison sentence is almost unavoidable if the level is more than 150 mg.

Other new road safety measures include compulsory use of dipped headlights all day in rural areas during the dark winter months and always when visibility is impaired by darkness, fog or rain.

Another main reason for improvement is that attitudes towards driving have changed considerably, Mr Aas says. It is generally understood that road safety work is everyone's business. This is a slow but certain method to improve road safety, and important results have been achieved.

A further factor is intensified police enforcement. The police have bought new and efficient equipment, and every patrol car has a British-made alcoholmeter to test drunken drivers.

Fines for offences like speeding can be high. Driving, say 70 mph in a 50 mph limit area, can cost hundreds of pounds if the driver's income is high.

Roads have improved, too. Special attention has been paid to improving roads proved to be dangerous. Pedestrians and bicycle riders have separate roads in many areas.

Mr Martti Maki, research director in Road Safety, a public organization, said the 1972 figures caused a national drive for something to be done. That led to a parliamentary commission being set up forcing different authorities to be more efficient.

Olli Kivinen

Canada-US impasse over fishing treaty

An unratified fishing treaty is hampering the best efforts of the Canadian Government to establish its relationship with the new Reagan Administration on the right footing.

The two governments signed the treaty nearly two years ago but it has since been tied up in the United States Senate foreign relations committee, which refuses to recommend ratification on the ground that Canada got the better of the deal. The accord divides up the fish catch in a disputed area off the east coast of North America.

The impasse is by far the most serious and pressing of a wide range of issues complicating relations between the two North American neighbours. The others, for the most part, tend to fall into the category of perennials.

They include cross-border pollution from coal-fired power plants in the United States; the free-trade pact on automobiles and parts, which Canada feels has conferred one-sided advantages on the United States auto industry, but cannot get the Americans to renegotiate; and the Alaska natural gas pipeline across Canadian territory, which still faces regulatory and other delays in Washington, despite the agreement reached by the two governments more than two years ago.

Canadian officials have been muttering for months about the futility of trying to cope with a situation where one branch of government — namely, the United States Administration—proposes, while an entirely different branch—the Senate—disposes.

Recently Mr Mark MacGuigan, the Canadian External Affairs Minister, even suggested that Canada would henceforth refrain from entering into treaty arrangements with the Americans until its gets a commitment that the Senate will approve.

How this would work is not quite clear. But the very fact that Mr MacGuigan talked that way indicates the high level of frustration here over the thus-far-stillborn fishing agreement.

On either side of the border, the interests of only a few thousand fishermen are directly affected by the issue. The national interests of neither country are very deeply involved. Nevertheless the ratification delay is being treated as a leading problem in Canada, even if it is a small and inconsequential thing as far as most Americans are concerned.

Several times the House of Commons in Ottawa has ritually adopted resolutions calling on the United States Senate to endorse the treaty, but to no avail. For his part, Mr MacGuigan has rejected periodic hints emanating from Washington that the agreement should be renegotiated. The only changes the Canadian Government is prepared to consider are minor modifications having nothing to do with the substance of the treaty.

Yet, at the same time, Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island, perhaps the staunchest opponent of ratification, maintains that the accord has no chance of passing in its present form.

What happens if the impasse continues is not clear. For the moment, all seems peaceful on the disputed fishing grounds, where fishermen from both countries operate, but that picture could change if it became evident that there is going to be no long-term agreement.

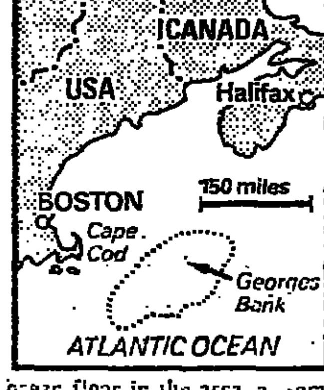
Mr MacGuigan was asked recently whether the Canadian Government would be prepared to bar American fishermen from Canadian waters should the deadlock persist.

"Well, we will certainly develop what we consider to be the appropriate scenarios in that case", he replied without elaborating.

The problem is to define what are Canadian waters and what are American in the disputed area, which is known as Georges Bank, and lies south of Nova Scotia and east of Cape Cod. It is rich in fish resources, particularly scallops, cod, haddock and herring.

Under the treaty, Canadian fishermen would get nearly three-quarters of the scallop harvest, while American fishermen would get most of the cod, haddock and herring.

A separate treaty provides for delimitation of the disputed maritime boundary in the region to be referred to a panel of the International Court of Justice for binding arbitration. The court's decision will be important should oil and gas be eventually discovered on the



ocean floor in the area, as some experts are predicting.

The two treaties, while separate, have been coupled for purposes of Senate ratification and so far there has been no move to separate them to expedite passage of the boundaries accord, which is less controversial.

The new Administration in Washington is solidly behind the treaties, as was President Carter's Administration. Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, has agreed to appoint a special negotiator to try to get the contentious fishing treaty through the Senate, and Senator Charles Percy of Illinois, new chairman of the foreign relations committee, is "most encouraging", in Mr MacGuigan's words.

But it is doubtful if the New England fishing interests which oppose the treaty, and their representatives in Washington, will be very impressed.

John Best

Law Report February 19 1981 — House of Lords

Legal aid to unassisted party

Megarity and Others v Law Society
Gayway Linings Ltd v Law Society

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Scarman and Lord Bridge of Harwich

The House of Lords, in two separate appeals by the Law Society gave guidance on the way in which the provisions of the Legal Aid Act, 1974, and regulations made thereunder relating to the power of the court to award the costs of successful unassisted parties out of the legal aid fund, should be construed.

Their Lordships held in the first appeal that the word "proceedings" in section 13(1) included an interlocutory appeal and that where that interlocutory appeal had been "finally decided" in favour of unassisted defendants, *the court had jurisdiction to order* that the defendants' costs should be paid out of the legal aid fund. In the second appeal they held *that under section 13(3) a district* registrar who first heard and determined a case and made an order which was effective and *operative unless reversed on* appeal was a "court of first instance"; where a party appealed from his decision to a judge in chambers, the judge sat as an appellate court.

The House dismissed an appeal by the Law Society from the *Court of Appeal (Lord Roskill and* Lord Justice Ormrod) ([1980] 1 WLR 1318) which had ordered in favour of defendant employers, *D. J. Ryan & Sons Ltd*, who had succeeded in an interlocutory appeal against a legally aided employee, Mr Brian Megarity, of Blackburn, that the unassisted employers were entitled to have their costs in those proceedings borne by the legal aid fund, subject to the Law Society's right to object to the order.

Also dismissed was the Law Society's appeal from the Court of Appeal (the Master of the Rolls, *Lord Justice Shaw and Lord Jus*tice Brandon) (*The Times*, March 11, 1980) which had dismissed the society's appeal from Mr Justice *Latey in chambers. He had ordered* that the legal aid fund should pay the costs occasioned by the appeal of Mr Fred Toczek, of Princess Street, Manchester, assisted defendant to an action by Gayway Linings Ltd, from Mr Registrar Lockett at Manchester district registry, who ordered that his defence be struck out and judgment for £3,982, with interest and costs, be entered in favour of Gayways.

Section 13 provides: "(1) where a party receives legal aid in connexion with any proceedings between him and a party not receiving legal aid (. . . the 'unassisted party') and those proceedings are finally decided in favour of the unassisted party, the court . . . may . . . make an order for the payment to the unassisted party out of the legal aid fund of the whole or any part of the costs *incurred by him in those proceed*ings . . . (3) . . . no order shall be made under this section in respect of costs incurred in a *court of first instance, whether* by that court or by any appellate court, unless—(a) the proceedings in the court of first instance were *instituted by the party receiving* legal aid; and (b) the court is satisfied that the unassisted party will suffer severe financial hardship unless the order is made."

Mr Duncan Matheson for the Law Society in both appeals; Mr Michael Kershaw, QC, and Mr Michael Black for Mr Megarity; Mr Giles Wingate-Saul for the defendant employers Ryan; Mr Rodney Scholes for Gayway.

LORD DIPLOCK, with whose speech Lord Simon, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Scarman and Lord Bridge concurred, said that the two appeals raised questions of great practical importance as to the power of courts exercizing appellate functions to order that the costs of a successful party who had not received legal aid ("the unassisted party") should be paid out of the legal aid fund.

When the orders for costs in the instant appeals were made, the Legal Aid (General) Regulations, 1971, and the Legal Aid (Costs of Successful Unassisted Parties) Regulations, 1964, were in force. Amended and consolidated regulations had come into force on January 1, 1981; but it was rightly conceded by the Law Society that their Lordships' decisions in the instant cases would govern also orders for costs of successful unassisted parties made under the latest Legal Aid (General) Regulations, 1980.

The purpose of the first Legal Aid and Advice Act, 1949, for legal aid in civil cases was plain. It was that no one should be *debarred by poverty from access* to a court of law for the vindication of his legal rights.

Under that Act, if the assisted *party were successful in civil pro*ceedings brought by him as plaintiff, little or no burden fell on the national exchequer. The unassisted loser was responsible for his own costs and would ordinarily be ordered to pay to the legal aid fund the party and party costs of the assisted winner. Similarly if the assisted party were successful as defendant, the like consequences would follow. Those financial consequences by assisted plaintiffs or defendants were broadly the same whether success was finally achieved in a court of first instance or an appellate court.

Where the assisted party was unsuccessful, however, the financial consequences to the unassisted party and to the national exchequer were very different from *what they would have been if the* litigation had been conducted without legal aid. The successful unassisted party, whether defen*dant or plaintiff, had to pay his* own actual costs; he could not recover any part of them from the assisted party or from the legal aid fund; *while the national* exchequer, through the legal aid fund, paid all the costs of the unsuccessful assisted party, not only in the court of first instance but also in any appellate court to which the case went. So where the assisted party was ultimately unsuccessful the costs of the litigation throughout fell in part on the successful party and in part on public funds.

In most cases the assisted party would not have brought or defended civil proceedings or carried them to appeal *if he had not been* granted legal aid to do so under the legal aid scheme, and the unassisted party would have been *spared the expense of legal costs* in defending or asserting his own legal rights. The majority of civil cases, other than matrimonial causes, *brought between 1949 and* 1964 were claims for damages for personal injuries in traffic accidents and accidents at work. The *defendants' liability in such actions* were normally covered by insurance. Since legal aid could not be granted to a person to assert or dispute a civil claim at first instance or on appeal unless the appropriate committee (composed of practising lawyers) was satisfied that he had reasonable grounds for doing so, Parliament might well have thought that the number of such legally aided actions which failed at first instance would not be large, and since personal injury actions generally turned on questions of fact, that the number of appeals would *be small. So where insurance com*panies met the costs of successful unassisted defendants, no great social injustice would be done by *leaving that burden where it lay.*

Where, however, the successful unassisted party was himself of modest means and not protected by insurance, his having to incur the costs of resisting an unsuccessful claim or vindicating his own legal rights might, and before 1964 often did, cause him severe financial hardship, or even ruin.

So, too, the number of appeals to the Court of Appeal by unsuccessful assisted parties was considerable. A substantial proportion of them up to 1964 appeared to be devoid of merit, and not only the legal aid fund, whose appropriate committee had authorized the appeal, but also the unassisted respondent, had been compelled to incur substantial additional legal costs to no purpose.

Those were the two mischiefs that the Legal Aid Act, 1964, was designed to mitigate.

That *new* Act mitigated the hardship to a successful unassisted party of modest means by enabling the court by which the order for costs was made to transfer to the national exchequer through the legal aid fund the burden of costs incurred by him.

The Act empowered the court to do that if it were satisfied that the unassisted party would suffer severe financial hardship unless such an order were made.

The Act also dealt with the mischief of unjustified appeals. It drew a distinction between costs incurred by successful unassisted parties at first instance and costs incurred by them on appeal, regardless of the unassisted party's means. The "philosophy" of the Act was to allow a legally aided party to civil proceedings only one unsuccessful bite at the legal cherry at the expense, in part, of a successful unassisted party, and, in part, of the legal aid fund.

If he was to be given a second bite in an appellate court and that was unsuccessful it was to be taken at the expense wholly of the legal aid fund if the appellate court considered it just and equitable to make an order for the payment of the successful unassisted person's costs out of *the legal aid fund.*

The drafting of the 1964 Act was highly elliptical. It took the first two sections only to deal with *legal aid in England and Wales.* They were reproduced in the self-same terms in sections 13 and 14 of the 1974 Act, the consolidation *Act now in force.*

In Megarity's case the appeal turned on the meaning of "those proceedings" where that expres*sion first appeared in section* 13(1); and the Gayway appeal turned on the meaning of an "appellate court" in section 13(3). The *meaning of those* expressions was of an importance not confined to the instant appeals.

The "proceedings" to which section 13(1) applied were confined to proceedings in connexion with which a party had a right to receive legal aid.

To achieve the two purposes for which the 1964 Act was passed, it was essential that proceedings before an appellate court in any action, cause or matter should be treated as separate proceedings in themselves for the purpose of determining the right of the unassisted party to costs out of the legal aid fund. That was done by section 13(3), which laid down different criteria when awarding costs to a successful unassisted party, depending on whether the costs were incurred in a court of first instance or in an appellate court.

Sections 13 and 14 also drew a *distinction between "proceed*ings" simpliciter, the expression used in section 13(1), and "part only of those proceedings" (in section 14(5)). *That subsection* made it plain that "part" was not limited to cases where legal aid was received by the assisted party for part only of the period during which the proceedings were going on but referred also to cases where legal aid had been limited to one issue out of several in a single action, as in *Mills v Mills* ([1963] P 329), or to a particular step in proceedings such as applying for an interlocutory injunction. That particular part of proceedings might be finally *decided by an unappealed refusal* of the injunction but the proceedings as a whole continued and might well be finally decided in *favour of the party who failed to* get the interlocutory injunction.

Jurisdiction to make an order under section 13(1) awarding costs *out of the legal aid fund to an* unassisted party did not arise until the "proceedings" were finally decided in favour of the unassisted party. *Section 14(3) prevented* that happening in a court of first instance until the time for appeal was past. So where there was an *appeal to an appellate court*, the only court which *could* make an order under section 13(1) was the appellate court, first or final.

It was that consideration which led the House in *Shiloh Spinners Ltd v Harding (No 2)* ([1973] 1 WLR 518) to hold that "the costs incurred by him in those proceedings" at the end of section 13(1) must have been intended by Parliament to include costs in the lower courts with which the appellate court had jurisdiction to deal in its own order for costs made on the appeal. Otherwise the manifest purpose of the Act would be thwarted.

His Lordship then considered section 14(1)(a), under which regulations could be made to determine the proceedings which were or were not to be treated as separate proceedings for the purposes of section 13. What were separate proceedings would determine which court it was that had finally decided the proceedings and as such had jurisdiction to make an order under section 13(1).

His Lordship did not think that section 14(1)(a) authorized the making of regulations splitting a *single action into several parts*, either in a court of first instance or in an appellate court, and determining that each part should be treated as separate proceedings for the purpose of section 13. In cases where the assisted party received legal aid for part only of those proceedings, section 14(5) left the sole jurisdiction to make the modified order under section 13(1) for which it provided with the court that finally decided the whole proceedings in favour of the unassisted party and only if it did so decide them, whereas an order splitting the whole proceedings into several separate parts would transfer the *sole jurisdiction to make the order* to whichever court finally decided a particular part in favour of the unassisted party, even though the proceedings as a whole were finally decided in favour of the assisted party and not of the unassisted party as section 13(1) required.

Regulation 2 of the Legal Aid (Costs of Successful Unassisted Parties) Regulations, 1964, originally made under section 14(1)(a), and maintained by section 42(2) of the 1974 Act, provided: "Any proceedings in respect of which a separate civil aid certificate could properly be issued under the general regulations to a person receiving legal aid shall be treated as separate proceedings for the purposes of the Act."

"The relevant general regulation was 6(1)(b), which provided: "(1) A certificate may be issued in respect of— . . . (b) the whole or part of—(i) proceedings in a court of the first instance, or (ii) proceedings in an appellate court; but no certificate shall relate to proceedings (other than interlocu*tory appeals) both in a court of* first instance and in an appellate court or to proceedings in more than one appellate court."

That drew a distinction between three kinds of proceedings: those in a court of first instance, those in a first appellate court, and *those in a second appellate court.* While it was permissible to include interlocutory appeals to an appellate court in the same certificate as that issued in respect of first instance proceedings, the power to do so was permissive only and such interlocutory appeals might properly be the subject of a separate certificate. So the regulations made under section 14(1) provided, as the Act compelled them to do, that all proceedings on appeal to an appellate court in any action, cause or matter were to be treated as separate proceedings from the *proceedings in the same action in* the court of first instance from which the appeal was brought.

Regulation 6(1) also drew the *distinction between the whole pro*ceedings and parts of proceedings: it imposed no legal limitation on what parts of proceedings might be made the *subject of a separate* civil aid certificate—though practical considerations would generally rule out dissection of each distinct procedural step in a civil action. Regulation 2 of the 1964 regulations spoke only of "proceedings" and did not provide that a part of proceedings only in respect of which a civil aid certificate could properly be issued was to be treated as separate proceedings for the purpose of section 13: such separate status was restricted to proceedings treated as a whole. Any other construction of the regulations would lead to manifestly absurd results.

Megarity's concerned an order for the payment of the cost incurred by his employers, unassisted defendants, in resisting an unsuccessful interlocutory appeal to the Court of Appeal by an assisted plaintiff in an action for damages for personal injuries. The court in dismissing his appeal, which they regarded as devoid of *merit, intimated their intention of* making an order under section 13(1) for the payment out of the legal aid fund the employers' costs *of the Court of Appeal proceed*ings.

The Law Society resisted the proposed order on the ground that the Court of Appeal had no jurisdiction under section 13(1) or, if they had jurisdiction, they should in the exercise of their discretion refuse to make it.

The Court of Appeal took the view that, on the true construction *of the Act in the light of its* manifest purpose, an interlocutory appeal to the Court of Appeal constituted separate proceedings *for the purposes of section 13.* His Lordship agreed. That court had jurisdiction to make the order that it did.

On discretion, the *Law Society* submitted that the question of what order, if any, should be made under section 13 should be remitted to the *High Court trial judge* and dealt with at the end of the trial. The short answer was that, on the construction his Lordship *had placed on section 13(1)*, the interlocutory appeal was separate proceedings; the court that finally decided those proceedings was the Court of Appeal; they alone had jurisdiction to make an order for payment of those costs or any part of them out of the legal aid fund. His Lordship would accordingly dismiss the Megarity appeal.

Gayway concerned an order for the payment of costs incurred by an unassisted plaintiff in resisting an unsuccessful appeal by an assisted defendant to a judge in chambers from an order of a district registrar striking out his defence to the plaintiffs' claim on four bills of exchange and ordering judgment to be entered against him.

The defendant then became a person receiving legal aid and appealed to the judge in chambers from the registrar's order. Mr Justice Eastham dismissed his appeal, and Gayway sought an order for payment of their costs of the appeal out of the legal aid fund. The Law Society appeared, to oppose the order. Mr Justice Latey made the order. The Court *of Appeal dismissed the appeal.*

The question of construction was short. Was a judge in chambers in the High Court, when hearing an *appeal from an order of a district* registrar or Queen's Bench master ordering final judgment to be entered in the action, acting as a "*court of first instance*" or an "appellate court" within the meaning of section 13(3) of the 1974 Act? Did those expressions *refer to the function that the court* was performing in the particular proceedings or to *its status in the* hierarchy of courts?

As the Master of the Rolls had pointed out, orders made by district registrars, like those of Queen's Bench masters and Family *Division registrars ordering judg*ment to be entered for a party to an action, were orders that finally decided the action. They took effect as soon as they were made; the only way of setting them aside was by what Order 58, rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court described as an "appeal" to a judge in chambers; and such appeal did not even operate as a *stay of proceedings on the judg*ment unless the court otherwise directed.

So where a district registrar ordered judgment in an action to *be entered for an unassisted plain*tiff and no appeal was brought from his order to the judge in chambers, the registrar became the *court by which the proceedings* were finally decided in favour of the unassisted party. He was the court of first instance in those *proceedings and the judge in* chambers who determined an appeal from his decision was acting as an appellate court and not otherwise.

His Lordship agreed with the Court of Appeal that the expression "appellate court" in section *13(3) should be taken to refer* to the function that the court was performing. That also was the only view consistent with the "*philosophy*" of the Act. When appealing from the registrar to the judge in chambers the assisted party was having a second bite at *the legal cherry.*

But for the appeal to the Court of Appeal in Gayway the judge's order dismissing the defendant's *appeal from the registrar's order* would have been a final decision in favour of the unassisted party of the whole of the proceedings *brought against a party receiving* legal aid. The appeal was without merit and the judge was entitled in his discretion to take the view that it was just and equitable that the legal aid fund should bear the costs of an unmeritorious appeal that would probably never have been brought had the defendant not been encouraged to do so by financial provision for his costs made available from that fund. His contribution was assessed at nil.

Nothing his Lordship had said should be taken as encouraging the making of orders under section 13(1) in respect of an unassisted party's costs in an appeal from the registrar or master to a judge in chambers from any other kind of interlocutory order than one that finally disposed of the action. His Lordship would dismiss the Gayway appeal also.

Solicitors: Mr D. E. Edwards; Whitehouse, Gibson & Alton; Mackrell & Co; Barnett & Barn[...]

Costs order no benefit to assisted person

In re a Debtor (No 5883 of 1979)
The Debtor v Law Society

The Court of Appeal stated that an assisted person under the Legal Aid Act, 1974, does not obtain the slightest entitlement as beneficiary to a single penny payable by virtue of an order for costs made after his legal aid certificate has been granted. An order for costs is only made in his name for the purposes of taxation.

Their Lordships were giving judgment dismissing an appeal by the debtor husband against the dismissal by Mr Registrar Wheaton of an application by the debtor to set aside a bankruptcy notice made by the Law Society. The claim of £2,111 arose from an order against the debtor to pay half the costs of certain proceedings by his wife who was legally aided. The debtor resisted payment on the basis that his wife owed him £2,111, as a result of various assignments of her debts, and thus he had a set-off.

LORD JUSTICE TEMPLEMAN *said that the object of the Legal* Aid Act was simply to take over a person's legal proceedings, and for the state, through the legal *aid fund, to provide the money* to pay solicitors, counsel and other expenses of litigation of the assisted person. The state was paying that money out; clearly the state would want to get the benefit of any orders made on third parties to pay the costs incurred by the assisted person. Because those costs had not been incurred in fact by the assisted person, it was right that if anything was payable by third parties, that money should go to the state and not to the assisted person. Thus, section 8(1) of the Act provided that where a person received legal aid in connexion with any proceedings "(d) any sums recovered by virtue of an order or agreement for costs made in his favour with respect to the proceedings shall be paid into the legal aid fund".

That was supported by the Legal Aid (General) Regulations, 1971, regulation 18(2) of which provided: ". . . all moneys payable to an assisted person—(a) by virtue of any agreement or order made in connexion with the claim or action, cause or matter to which his certificate relates, . . . shall be paid . . . to the solicitor of the assisted person or, if he is no longer represented by a solicitor, to the Law Society, and only the solicitor, or, as the case may be, the Law Society, shall be capable of giving a good discharge for moneys so payable".

That regulation made it clear that in order to give effect to section 8(1)(d), notwithstanding *the order for payment of costs in* favour of the assisted person, and as the money did not belong to him but to the legal aid fund, it *was to be paid not to him but to* the solicitor or the Law Society. When the solicitor or the Law Society got the money they paid *it into the legal aid fund pursuant* to section 8(1)(d).

The assisted person could neither sue, nor give a good receipt for the money. The Law Society could bring proceedings in its own name and ignore the assisted person altogether. Accordingly, no set off could arise in any circumstances.

Licensing jurisdiction

Regina v Birmingham Justices, Ex parte Walker

Mr Justice Forbes, in the Divisional Court, said that section 8 of the Licensing Act, 1964, was not to be interpreted as giving licensing justices a general jurisdiction to hear applications for the transfer of justices' on-licences which have expired by effluxion of time. There was only jurisdiction if the licensee from whom a transfer was sought was incapable of carrying on business under the licence by reason of illness or infirmity within section 8(1)(b). *Birmingham* licensing justices were accordingly right to dismiss an application by Mr K Bartlett for the transfer of an *on-licence for the Daddy L*[...] Legs nightclub, Bordesley, which had expired prior to the application.

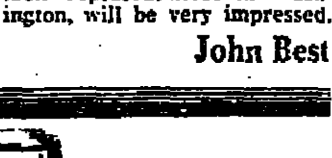
His Lordship allowed an application for judicial review by the clerk to the justices and granted an order of certiorari to quash an order of Birmingham Crown Court remitting the application back to the justices on an appeal by Mr Bartlett.

Two million Railcards

More than two million people have a Railcard, British Rail announced yesterday. The Family Railcard, costing £10, becomes a permanent member of the pack on March 1.

Crossing escape

A British Rail van driver escaped yesterday when a *London-bound express* rammed his vehicle after it broke down on an unmanned level crossing at Rossington near Doncaster.



Mr Foot delighted but demands specific undertaking on cash support for mining industry

House of Commons

There were loud Labour cheers as Mr Foot congratulated Mrs Thatcher on a great victory for the miners and for the country. His hint of an invitation to dinner for the Prime Minister, however, received a negative response.

Questioning about developments in the coal industry was opened by Mr John Watson (Skipton, C) who said: In view of developments in the coal industry (loud Labour cheers) in the past 24 hours, will the Prime Minister take time today (Labour shouts of "to resign") . . . to confirm that the least efficient 10 per cent of all British pits are currently losing money at £190m a year, and that, whatever may be the outcome of talks over the next few days, the most effective way of reducing costs and thereby of restoring the competitiveness of the British coal industry, lies in a planned and agreed schedule of pit closures?

Mrs Margaret Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C): I understand those figures are broadly correct (Labour laughter). May I stress that it is the wish on this side, and I believe on the other, to have a competitive coal industry because that puts less burden on other parts of the economy and would enable many other industries, big users of electricity, which is based on coal, to have that electricity more cheaply and thereby to keep more jobs in their own industries.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): I, more generously than Mr Watson, congratulate her (Labour cheers) on what, on present evidence, appears to be a great victory for the miners and the nation.

Of course, we shall want an explicit undertaking from the minister who was vague two days ago, but so far it looks a very good thing.

I assure Mrs Thatcher that every time she turns she will get a nice bouquet from me. I may even ask her to dinner. (Loud laughter). Who can tell? (Renewed laughter).

Is the Government thinking of including a specific undertaking to the miners of financial support in a new coal industry Bill? When will the Bill be introduced?

What figure will the Government agree on to enable undertakings made to be carried through?

Mrs Thatcher: On the question of dinners, Mr Foot will not need reminding that it is on occasion a lady's prerogative to say "No".

Labour MPs: Not to the miners.

Mrs Thatcher: On the amount of money, I must stick to what Mr Howell said at the meeting yesterday: Two main points were raised. It would be wrong to put any gloss on that because matters will continue to be negotiated next week.

The minister said that he was prepared to discuss the financial constraints with an open mind and also with a view to movement. The Chairman of the National Coal Board, *in the light of that*, said that he would withdraw the closure proposals and would re-examine the *position in consultation with the unions.*

I am not in a position to go further. Consultations and negotiations will continue with a meeting next week.

Mr Foot: I am eager to thank her on every available occasion. I thank her for turning yesterday's *listening session into a talking session.* That was an improvement as well.

What would be the worst of all would be if after the Government has secured a settlement or apparent movement towards a settlement, there were to be any breach of faith.

What is the amount of money involved? Is it going to be incorporated in a new coal industry Bill because it was the last coal industry Bill which was part of the cause of the trouble?

Mrs Thatcher: It is precisely because there must be no breach of faith over what took place at the meeting that I am sticking to quoting the words that were heard and were the subject of the action taken at that meeting. It would be most unwise to go any further.

Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, Lab), rising to Conservative cheers, said: Why did the Prime Minister ignore the repeated explanations during all stages of the coal industry Bill that this was a pit closure Bill?

Who are the trimmers now? Is this slow motion conservatism, or the first note of the Limehouse blues?

Mrs Thatcher: The action was swift and decisive. (Loud Labour laughter.)

A Labour MP: Was she pushed or did she fall?

Mr David Steel (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L): In her present constructive mood will the Prime Minister turn her attention to lower interest rates?

Mrs Thatcher: The House must realize that if more money is to be found the only place it can come from is the people of this country. It either has to come out of the taxpayer's pocket or it has to be borrowed and that would *lead to higher interest rates.*

When people constantly ask for more money, I hope this is something they will bear in mind.

Competitive coal means competitive electricity

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, *in a statement* about the outcome of yesterday's tripartite meeting of the Government and both sides of the coal industry, said he would be meeting the industry again next Wednesday. He welcomed the decision of the national executive of the National Union of Mineworkers today urging their members to work normally.

Mr Howell (Guildford, C) said that at yesterday's meeting he had said that the Government was prepared to discuss the financial constraints with an open mind and with a view to movement. The chairman of the National Coal Board (Sir Derek Ezra) said that in the light of that the board would withdraw their closure proposals and reexamine the position in consultation with the unions.

Mr Merlyn Rees, chief Opposition spokesman on energy (Leeds, South, Lab), said the outcome was a victory for common sense over the political prejudices against nationalized industries following the foolish decision on the financial constraints in the Coal Act, 1980, about which Mr Howell had been warned.

His assumptions were wrong (he went on), were seen to be wrong and have proved to be wrong, and following a period of ministerial and prime ministerial ineptitude in the handling of events in recent weeks they enabled the miners correctly to claim victory.

In what ways is financial help to be given? Is it grants for specific purposes? Is it transfer to the Government of the social charges of the NCB? Will it be an increase in the cash limits which are so obviously insufficient now?

When can we expect legislation to enable the Government to act? We will expedite any legislation that is required for the purpose.

When Mr Gormley came out of talks last night he said there was a commitment on lower imports. What is the commitment and how will it be implemented?

There are still miners who say they are not going back to work. Will Mr Howell spell it out more explicitly because he is far too general and the miners do not trust the Government. It must be spelt out or it is going to be extremely difficult.

On a day when gas prices are being jacked up by Government decision, the Government's overall energy pricing policy is now even more in tatters than before.

Overall the Government's industrial policy is unrecognizable compared with the one that they put to the electorate. The Government have not engaged in a U-turn. They are like a truck which has skidded. The Government's policy has jack-knifed.

Mr Howell: He speaks about the financial constraints of the Coal Industry Act which was passed through this House last year. It was always recognized by both sides of the industry and by *The Plan for Coal*, that closures are necessary to reduce old and declining capacity and to *modernize new capacity.*

On financial help and imports the words I used in the tripartite talks were explicitly set out to both sides of the industry. It was on the understanding of those words that the industry agreed to come back next Wednesday.

It was on the understanding of those words that the chairman of the NCB said the board would withdraw the closure proposals and reexamine the position in consultation with the unions.

I believe talks for a constructive future of this industry are far better than seeing this industry tear itself apart on the basis of misleading and distorted rumours.

Mr Terence Higgins (Worthing, C): There is no future for miners or anyone else however hard they work if they are not producing goods at competitive prices. In that context, an increase in public subsidy and higher borrowing requirement, likely to cause higher interest rates and exchange rates, will have an adverse affect on the private sector.

Mr Howell: I agree with what he has said. He mentioned the burden on industries of uneconomic operations—and when it comes to finance we are talking about taxpayers' money—and that they place burdens on other industries.

One of the problems on energy pricing that has to be, and is being, recognized in the coal industry is that the price of electricity, which is high because we live in an age of high cost energy, is one of the things making additional problems for industry. Unless we can get competitive coal we cannot get competitive electricity.

Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab): The miners are angry because they feel they are being punished for their success in increasing productivity. He should encourage other workers by rewarding them. This is a good time to start a shorter working week in the industry, or give miners the same holidays as school teachers, or early retirement like policemen.

Mr Howell: He talks about punishment. The reality is that best reward for the nation and the industry and the miners is productivity. Britain needs a profitable and successful industry that could sell into overseas markets and compete with other fuels and produce and sustain investment and jobs for the future.

Mr Patrick McNair-Wilson (New Forest, C): Although coal enjoys a substantial price advantage over oil, there is an urgent need to stimulate coal sales. Can he discuss with the Chancellor of the Exchequer to see what provisions can be made for those businesses which wish to install coal-burning equipment?

Mr Howell: I recognize the validity of his point. Coal has a substantial economic advantage over oil and therefore it makes good economic sense, even as things stand, to tear out their oil-fired equipment and put in coal-using equipment.

Mr David Penhaligon (Truro, L): The recent movement on British Steel, British Leyland and now British coal can only lead to one conclusion. The real movement is a movement away from the Government's economic policy on high interest rates and high exchange rates.

Mr Howell: The most important thing is to see more jobs and more competitive products in this country. It applies to every industry and to our great energy industries alike.

Mr Eric Cockeram (Ludlow, C): There was peace in this industry until 10 days ago—until Sir Derek Ezra behaved like an IRA bomber . . . (cries of "Withdraw"). It is apparent that Sir Derek Ezra has achieved his objective by squeezing more money out of the British taxpayer over and above the £800m.

Mr Howell: The board forwarded a list for accelerated closures which included, as Sir Derek Ezra pointed out yesterday, all the pits virtually exhausted. Their average age was 93 years old. If one accepts and realizes these figures, perhaps some of the language he used is not entirely appropriate.

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas): I am sure Mr Cockeram would like to withdraw any suggestion that Sir Derek Ezra is an IRA bomber (Laughter).

Mr Cockeram: I would willingly withdraw what you request.

Linking pay of MPs with other occupations

The setting up of a select committee to consider among other things the linking of the pay of MPs with the pay of other occupations in comparable walks of life was proposed in one of four motions moved by Mr Francis Pym, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House.

The first two motions provided that the ordinary salary of every MP in respect of service on and after June 13, 1980, should be regarded for pension purposes as being £13,150 a year. Opposition amendments which were considered suggested £13,750.

In the remaining motion, the Government proposed that the annual pension should remain at one-sixtieth of relevant terminal salary for each year of reckonable service and that facilities for purchasing added years should be expanded and improved. An Opposition amendment suggested increasing the accrual rate to one-fortieth.

Mr Pym said that the House had last July accepted the Government's proposal that MPs' salaries should be increased by 9.6 per cent, which was less than that recommended by the Top Salary Review Board.

The House had amended the motion for pension purposes to £13,750 and voted for the establishment of a link between MPs' pay and that of a specified grade in the public service. They had agreed that the accrual rate for pensions should increase from one-sixtieth to one-fortieth of final pensionable pay for each year of service.

That had raised considerable complexities because of the need to consider the implication for the rest of the public service. The Government remained strongly of the opinion that MPs' pensionable pay should be £13,150, the actual rate which would come into payment on June 13.

The Government was convinced that the same considerations of restraint applied to pensionable pay. It could not be treated as if it were a free-standing issue.

The review body last Kuly had also made recommendations about four groups also within its remit: the chairmen and members of nationalized industry boards; the judiciary; higher civil servants and senior officers in the Armed Forces.

If the House decided that its pensinable pay should be increased but that the other groups should be content with what they had got, these groups would have a sense of grievance and injustice.

If the House voted for a pensionable rate beyond £13,150, it would be voting for the same for the other groups.

If MPs insisted on increasing their pensions, many of the public would feel that MPs were creating a degree of special treatment for themselves and would be likely to feel justified in pressing their own claims that much harder.

The cost of voting for the higher rate suggested by the Opposition would be £1,250,000 in this financial year and next and £666,666 per year thereafter.

The Government remained sceptical about linking MPs' pay to that of any outside group for a variety of reasons, not least because it would detract from the responsibility of MPs to settle their pay directly in the light of prevailing circumstances.

Consultations by Mr Norman St John-Stevas, former Leader of the House, had shown that many MPs supported linkage

The Government, therefore, proposed the appointment of a select committee to look at linkage on the basis of independent reviews at the start of every Parliament, coupled with the use of what had been described as a basket method of adjustment during the life of the rest of the Parliament. That fitted more naturally into MPs' lifestyle than reviews every feive years.

Mr Charles Morris, an Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs (Manchester, Openshaw, Lab), moving the amendments, said he had been one of those MPs who had demanded that MPs' pay should be linked to the Civil Service grade of assistant secretary. The demand came from a feeling among many MPs that they wanted to get their pay out of the political arena.

The amendment to make the pension accrue rate one-fortieth instead of the present one-sixtieth relfected the political hazards and realities of parliamentary life.

The Government was saying on the accrual rate that while for pay purposes MPs could not be linked to a Civil Service grade, for pension purposes they could not be unlinked.

Mr Edward du Cann (Taunton, C) said he regretted that the Government was unwilling to accept the larger figure of £13,750. MPs should have the right pay and conditions to do their job. There was no reason for the public in general to expect them to penalize their families or themselves if they chose a career in the public service.

Mr John Parker (Barking, Dagenham, Lab), father of the House and chairman of the members' pension trust, said that it was 46 years since he had come to the Hose and MPs had not been well paid during that period.

MPs' average length of service when he came was 15 years and it was only 16 years now. There was £20m in the pension fund and apart from that being able to make a contribution, so could MPs.

The Opposition amendment was rejected by 121 votes to 44—Government majority, 77.

The Government motions were agreed to.

Investigation into fish prices in shops

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said he regretted fishermen were still on strike. Those remaining in port were acting against the advice of their leaders.

Mr James Lamond (Oldham, East, Lab): Fishermen cannot make a living because of poor quayside prices and because of the flood of cheap imported fish. How is it that the consumer cannot discern any reduction in the price of fish in the shops?

Mr Buchanan-Smith: In some areas there has been some reduction in the price of fish. The Secretary of State is asking three of his marketing advisers to look at fish marketing in this country. I look forward to whatever recommendations they may make. Mr Lamond is dealing with a serious point.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C): At what stage will the Government require to give more thought to a form of unilateral action if we cannot persuade our partners in Europe to come to a decision?

Mr Buchanan-Smith: Compared with 18 months ago the case of the United Kingdom for a properly renegotiated fisheries policy has received support from a wide range of governments within Europe.

Opposition condemns proposed rise in EEC farm prices

The proposal by the EEC Commission to increase the price of milk by 8 per cent was an affront to the British people and economic lunacy, **Mr Gavin Strang**, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture, said during exchanges on milk production.

Mr Strang (Edinburgh, East, Lab) said: The cost of the EEC milk regime, now running at £2,400m per annum, is monstrous. The proposed Commission price increase this morning of an 8 per cent, two-stage increase in the price of milk, is an affront.

He should fight to hold down the cost of the CAP to the British people and reduce this ridiculous price increase.

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, (Worcester, C): This Government has done better at holding down price increases than the previous Labour Government. Under that Government the average price increase was 7.5 per cent per annum, which is the price increase suggested in this proposal.

Therefore, all the Commission proposes is to advocate price increases equal to the average the previous Government agreed.

Mr Roger Moate (Faversham, C): Does he still wish to see expansion of United Kingdom dairy production?

Mr Walker: Yes, but it has got to be based on improving our performance in manufactured products.

There is little scope for increasing our consumption of liquid milk because it is already far above the average of anywhere else in the world.

It depends upon improving the manufactured and processing side.

I hope our efforts in marketing and the current benefit of positive MCAs are having some beneficial effect on that.

Answering a later question by **Mr Roger Moate** (Faversham, C), **Mr Walker** said he was continuing to press for action on prices and such other measures of reform of the CAP as were appropriate and negotiable.

Mr Moate: The phrase "fundamental reform" has been around for many years and we have yet to see any results. Is the Government determined to see fundamental change in the CAP or the replacement of this particular CAP?

Mr Walker: There have been substantial reductions in what used to be referred to as mountains and lakes during this past year, and there has been a much better administration of the disposals policy. The new proposals on stopping the increase in milk surpluses is an important reform.

Mr Strang: In what year did the last Labour government agree to an average price increase of 7.5 per cent? I think his earlier reply on EEC prices might have been somewhat misleading.

Is the cost to the British taxpayer of the proposed price package an insult to Mrs Thatcher? Or has she decided the British taxpayer will make a contribution to the French President's election campaign?

Mr Walker: I should be delighted to table in an official reply a list the price increases agreed to by the Labour government. I trust he would not find it too embarrassing.

In the last three years average price increases have been 2.7 per cent per year. This is way below the input cost and way below the rate of inflation of any country in Europe.

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C): His friends on the continent are providing hefty subsidies to their agriculture both in France and Germany through interest reduced loans and other subsidies.

Would he consider at once revaluing the green pound by the full amount and simultaneously give the same subsidy to our farmers?

Mr Walker: I totally reject his suggestion. As farm incomes have reduced by 24 per cent in real terms during this last year, Mr Marlow's suggestion would mean a massive reduction in farm incomes in this country.

He should study carefully why it is that countries like Germany have always struggled to maintain their positive MCAs. They have done it because they consider it to the benefit of the German economy.

Army range charges raised

Charges for the use of military rifle ranges by civilian clubs are to be increased following an investigation into the cost of running Service ranges, **Mr Philip Goodhart**, Under Secretary for Defence for the Army, announced

The investigation showed that the charges previously made bore little relationship to the cost of providing the facilities. The charges would be reviewed annually.

Our policy (he said) is to allow civilian clubs to use Service-controlled small-bore indoor ranges when they are not required for Service purposes.

To do so the clubs must be affiliated to the National Small-Bore Rifle Association, consist of at least 10 members, and be approved by the Home Office on application by the NSRA.

The new charges represented less than the full cost of providing these facilities but would recover a fair proportion of the costs, given the long standing relationship between the Services, the NSRA and the benefits accruing to them as a result of the NSRA's activities.

Mr Callaghan warns MPs about foolish moves on Canadian constitution

MPs could make fools of themselves if they turned down a request from the Federal Parliament over Canada's constitution, **Mr James Callaghan** (Cardiff, South-East, Lab) said during questions on the forthcoming Commons business.

He asked **Mr Francis Pym**, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of House; Will he give an undertaking that there will be no departure from the precedent that a request from the Federal Parliament of Canada will be met in full by the Government with a favourable recommendation to the House. (Conservative cries of "No".)

Mr Pym (Cambridgeshire, C): I do not think it would be appropriate for me to respond to that question except to remind Mr Callaghan that the Prime Minister has on a number of occasions answered points on this issue and clearly I have nothing to add.

Mr John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): It is no service to the cause which I think Mr Callaghan has in mind to suggest that we have no option in this House. (Conservative cheers.)

We have a duty to consider what might or might not be put before us.

Sir Bernard Braine (South-East Essex, C): In view of the surprising suggestion from Mr Callaghan, it would be gravely to misjudge the mood of the House if we are to be asked to approve and rubber stamp such a request. (Conservative cheers.)

It would be totally unprecedented without the full consent of not only the Federal Government but the provincial governments of Canada.

There is strong feeling that this would not be tolerated in this sovereign Parliament. (Cheers.)

Mr Pym: The House is seized of the fact that were a request to be made by the Parliament in Ottawa we would face a situation of the utmost importance and possibly of difficulty, and we shall have to act—as I am sure we shall—in a highly responsible way. It is not a matter to be pursued at present because it is still an open issue before the Canadian Parliament.

Mr Callaghan: Is it not important, in view of what is being said, that the Government should make a considered statement on this matter? All I have asked for, and Mr Pym did not give a clear reply, is that the Government should act in accordance with convention.

Of course, it is the case that the House must consider what is put before it and the House can make fools of themselves if they like and turn it down.

It would be in accordance with convention that the Government should place this legislation in front of the House, if they receive such a request, together with favourable backing to the House that it should be passed.

Mr Pym: The essential convention to which he referred is a request from the Federal Parliament of Ottawa. That request has not yet been received. It cannot be said with certainty it will be received.

I do not think a statement would be appropriate nor would it be welcome in the eyes of the Federal Government in Canada. We have to wait until their proceedings are concluded. If they send us a request we shall have to deal with it.

PM attacks council's closed shop policy

'he reported activities of Bradford Council in saying that only people who had joined unions would be considered for promotion were disgraceful, **Mrs Margaret Thatcher**, the Prime Minister, said at question time.

The matter had been raised by **Mr Marcus Fox** (Shipley, C) who said: I know Mrs Thatcher is as concerned as any on this side at the recent dismissal of Miss Joanna Harris by the Sandwell Council.

This is only the tip of the iceberg, in that a number of my constituents placed in the same position have received *instructions* from the Labour-controlled Bradford Metropolitan Council that only trade unionists will be transferred in their jobs or promoted.

Mrs Thatcher said the reported activities were repugnant and disgraceful.

The vast majority of people in this country and in the trade unions (she said) are against the closed shop.

I have not looked at the particular agreement of the Bradford Council. It is possible they might be in breach of the Employment Act. If so, I hope action will be taken.

The Green Paper on trade union immunities makes further legislative proposals with regard to the closed shop. I hope people who have particular examples or strong feelings on this will contact the Secretary of State for Employment

Compensation for burst mains

When the Water Bill was considered on report a Government new clause was agreed which raises from £60 to £300 the maximum contribution that may be required of a house owner towards the cost of installing a healthy supply of water.

Mr Giles Shaw, Under Secretary for the Environment (Pudsey, C), said the increase was in line with inflation since the figure was raised to £60 in 1961. It was needed if local authorities were not to be discouraged on financial grounds from discharging an important public health duty.

Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon, Pl Cymru) moved a new clause which would enable the Welsh Water Authority to make an extra charge on water that was taken from Wales for use outside Wales.

He said the new clause was put forward in the absence of equalization, abandoned by the Government, and of a standard charge for water throughout England and Wales. There was a disparity of about 30 per cent in the payment that water ratepayers had to make in Wales.

Mr Dennis Howell, an Opposition spokesman on the environment (Birmingham, Small Heath, Lab), said that the basis for the sale of water in bulk between regions was one of "no profit, no loss".

The equalization policy of the Labour Government had been introduced to deal with the difference in price for water in Wales. The present Government had ended it. The Government had said it would deal with it by other means.

If the method suggested by Mr Wigley were used in Wales, why not in other regions where consumers paid more for water? It was not the right answer.

Mr Wyn Roberts Under Secretary, Welsh Office (Conway, C) said that the clause was not necessary and schemes could be drawn up for charges.

So far there was no proposal for fundamentally changing the basis on which the Welsh Water Authority charged other authorities for Welsh water but clearly there would have to be changes. The introduction of current cost accounting required a reexamination of the methods by which charges were calculated.

He understood that the question of charging for Welsh water was under examination by the Welsh authority which had asked its management team to produce a scheme.

It would be wrong *for him to* indicate a Government view on the appropriate level of charge from 1981-82 onwards. The authorities might come to agreements satisfactory to both parties. Only if there was disagreement would the Government become involved.

The amendment was withdrawn.

A new clause to provide that where people through no fault of their own suffered damage to their property from burst water mains or collapsing or overflowing sewers they did not have to prove negligence on the part of the water undertaking to receive compensation was moved by **Mr Edward Graham**, an Opposition spokesman on the environment.

Mr Graham (Enfield, Edmonton, Lab) said it was to deal with the situation where innocent people faced the almost impossible task of having to prove negligence.

A situation could arise where an occupier could suffer loss through a burst water main and receive proper compensation while a neighbour, also through no fault of his own, could suffer from an overflowing or collapsing sewer and get no compensation.

Mr Shaw *said* the Government would table in the Lords an amendment dealing with damage from burst water mains.

There would have to be further consideration before all the problems could be tackled and he was willing to have discussions on this.

The new clause was withdrawn.

Mr Giles Shaw, Under Secretary for the Environment, moving the third reading of the Bill, said it was essentially concerned with increasing the borrowing power of the British Waterways Board. It also tied up certain anomalies in relation to water supplies for fire fighting and amended the law relating to the provision of separate water service pipes.

Mr Dennis Howell, an Opposition spokesman on the environment (Birmingham, Small Heath, Lab) said the Opposition remained extremely concerned about the affairs of the British Waterways Board and the country's canal system.

The Bill's borrowing provisions were not adequate to allow the board to maintain the country's canal system. The board's finances were in an extremely serious state.

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C) said that water charges represented the most blatant form of taxation without representation since the days of the feudal dukes. The domestic water rate was the most hated aspect of the whole of the hated rating system.

The Bill was read the third time.

Former MPs in difficult circumstances

The Government was making £2m available in grants to help MPs who left the House of Commons before October, 1964, **Mr Francis Pym**, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and Leader of the House, said when moving the second reading of the House of Commons Members' Fund and Parliamentary Pensions Bill.

Mr Pym (Cambridgeshire, C) said these former MPs had not had an opportunity to contribute to a pension scheme or benefit from one. Many were getting on in years and some found themselves in difficult circumstances.

The Bill set the level of the new grant at £1,000 a year to pre-1965 MPs and £500 to widows and dependent widowers. The Government would be increasing its present contribution by £200,000 in each of the next 10 years and would be making in all £2m available to assist the pre-1965 MPs. This seemed to be a generous provision.

The Bill was read a second time and passed its remaining stages.

Steel statement

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, sai dat question time that she hoped there would be a statement next week on the MacGregor plan for the future of the steel industry.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 9.30: Private Members' Bills. Shops Bill and Countryside (Scotland) Bill, second readings.

MPs vote today on move to end shops anomaly

By Ian Bradley

Members of Parliament today have a chance to rectify the anomaly whereby pornographic magazines can be bought on Sundays but Bibles cannot.

The Shops Bill, which comes up for second reading in the House of Commons today, would permit Sunday and late night opening of shops. At present only a restricted range of goods are allowed to be sold after 8 pm and on Sundays. They include perishable foods and periodicals, but not canned foods or books.

The Bill, which was presented by Sir Anthony Meyer, Conservative MP for Flint, West, has been the subject of intensive lobbying.

The strongest support for the measure has come from Dickie Dirts, a clothing retailer with two shops in London, which contravenes the law by being open for 14 hours every day of the week.

Strong opposition has come from the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers, who fear that it could lead to their members working unsocial hours.

Mr Powell's views 'will encourage thugs'

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Mr Enoch Powell was accused yesterday of expressing views that would encourage wife-batterers, rapists and thugs who attacked black people.

Miss Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, was referring in the Nationality Bill standing committee to Mr Powell's argument that the ultimate test of nationality was fighting for one's country. He has moved an amendment to delete the provision allowing nationality to be passed through the female line.

Mr Powell, Official Unionist MP for Down, South, maintained on Tuesday that one of the essential differences of function between the sexes was that one was specialized to bear arms and the other to the preservation and care of life. Nationality had hitherto been transmitted by men because the "primary allegiance" was expressed through the male.

Miss Richardson said she wondered how Mr Powell could bear to sit on a committee chaired by a woman [Miss Janet Fookes, Conservative MP for Plymouth, Drake] and which had another woman MP as a member. The tone of his remarks were from the days of the caveman, Miss Richardson commented.

"His words will give encouragement to young thugs who attack black people. His attitude will encourage young people, black or white, who feel that violence should be part of our culture."

Opposing the amendment, Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, said the notion of allegiance and commitment could not be the sole and overriding ingredient in establishing a pattern of citizenship for modern times.

Fighting had changed a lot, even since 1945. At the heart of the old-style battle was brute force. Today the finger on the trigger or button could be male or female.

Mr Powell, replying to the debate, said that even in the last 36 years nations had defended their soil by conventional war.

His amendment was defeated by 19 votes to 2. His only supporter was Mr Ivor Stanbrook, Conservative MP for Bromley, Orpington.

Labour motion on textiles

he main business in the House of ommons will be:

onday: Energy Conservation Bill, cond reading.

esday: Social Security Bill, cond reading.

ednesday: Gas Levy Bill, remaining stages. Opposed Private Bill: eater London Council (General owers) (No 2) Bill, report.

ursday: Debates on Opposition otions on crisis in textile, cloing and footwear industries and the deteriorating economic and ployment situation in the South South-west.

iday: Private members' Bills: orserace Betting Levy Bill and evelopment of Tourism (Scotnd) Bill, second readings.

The main business in the House Lords will be:

onday: Debate on forestry.

esday: Iron and Steel (Borrowg Powers) Bill, second reading. atrimonial Homes (Family Protion) (Scotland) Bill, second ading. Debate on need for royal mmission on problems of Hongng.

ednesday: Debates on need to rengthen country's air defences d on implications of decision to quire Trident missile system. arriage Enabling Bill, second ading.

ursday: Redundancy Fund Bill, cond reading. Companies Bill, cond reading. Debate on effect energy prices on industry.

Balancing the interests of ramblers and bulls

House of Lords

Bulls were dangerous creatures and had led to the death or serious injury of people peacefully using the countryside, **Lord Avebury** (L) said during the resumed committee stage of the Wildlife and Countryside Bill.

He moved an amendment to make the Bill's prohibition on keeping bulls on land crossed by a footpath or bridleway apply to all bulls.

The Bill exempts non-dairy breed bulls in fields where there are cows or heifers. It also exempts bulls under 10 months old.

Lord Avebury said they were talking about an extreme hazard which faced anyone who had the terity to walk through a field where a bull was bing kept by the farmer. The consensus of informed opinion was that all bulls should be treated as potentially dangerous in all circumstances.

A large number of people, including ramblers and farm workers, had been killed, injured and seriously threatened by bulls.

It would be preferable to replace the current mixture of byelaws with a single enactment which applied all over the country, but only if that applied to all bulls in fields with public paths. Bulls and walkers should be kept apart in all circumstances.

Viscount Massereene and Ferrard (C) said farm workers had not been killed by bulls in the open but by dairy bulls in their pen, a different matter.

He had once owned a bull which went to investigate a hiker's tent, became entagled in the guy-ropes and got a frying-pan attached to its horns. This was extremely annoying for the cows because whenever the bull tried to get near them they heard the frying-pan banging.

It was also annoying for him in trying to get the cows served. In the end the bull had to be shot. He could not support the amendment.

Lord Underhill (Lab) said they were not talking about walkers who understood animals. He did not understand them, but he enjoyed walking in the countryside.

There were millions of people who wished to walk in the countryside with their children. An assurance from a minister that a bull was safe would not make those people believe it was safe. The House was dealing with people's apprehensions and had to take notice of them.

There were veterinary surgeons who would agree with the amendment.

Lord Milverton (C) said those in farming agreed that it was necessary to treat all bulls with care.

Lady Elliot of Harwood (C) said that to make all this fuss about going through a field where there were beef bulls was too silly for words. She was a practical farmer, and these bulls were much quieter than cows. Nobody with a bull considered dangerous would put it where there were people.

Lord Collison (Lab) said he had personal experience of the danger, having worked on the land. For some reason, bulls could suddenly go berserk. The agricultural workers' union was in favour of the amendment.

Lord Melchett (Lab), for the Opposition, said any bull was likely to be dangerous and should never be trusted. The Bill ignored the rights of the elderly, young children and the disabled who coult run for cover.

The Earl of Avon, Lord in Waiting, said the situation in England and Wales was regarded as unsatisfactory by all major interested parties. Arrangements for bulls were different in different parts of the country.

Four previous attempts to legislate in the last 32 years had all been unsuccessful. The aim was to strike a balance between the interests of farmers and pathhhhhh /lusers. The Bill did this. It accorded with the practice in Scotland over the last 10 years.

Most accidents with bulls happened to farmers or farmworkers and not in open fields. There was a duty on employers and workers not to put at risk the health and safety of the public.

He was a Londoner and, being nervous, had always made sure in fields that he could get to a fence before whatever was in the field could get to him. (Laughter.)

His father had had some very nice bulls. His father used to stroke them but he (Lord Avon) always made a point of standing by the gate. (Renewed laughter.)

The amendment was rejected by 82 votes to 37—Government majority, 45.

The committee stage was concluded.

The Deep Sea Mining (Temporary Provisions) Bill completed its report stage.

House adjourned, 10.16 pm.

VAT on sweets

Mr Keith Best (Anglesey, C) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer, what would be the loss of annual revenue if confectionery were to be zero-rated for value-added tax purposes.

Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State, Treasury, in a written reply, said: About £250m in a full year.

Bill 'a paradise for shady traders'

By David Hewson

The Government-sponsored National Consumer Council yesterday described the Companies Bill as "a paradise for shady traders".

The Bill, which comes up for second reading in the Lords on February 26, would make it much easier for unscrupulous traders to conceal their true identity from consumers, trading standards officers, and the press, the council said.

It would abolish the Registry of Business Names, under which all traders except those using their own names are obliged to register with the Central Business Names Registry. In its place the Government is proposing a requirement that businesses make information available on request in some cases, on business correspondence and inside premises.

Mr Jeremy Mitchell, the council's director, said that it had sent ministers suggestions for strengthening the Bill, but added: "Nevertheless, we have told the Government that even if our suggestions are acted on, the new system for enabling people to trace owners of a business will not be fully effective and there will still be gaps.

"We would much prefer the Government to retain the Registry of Business Names in a new, revitalized and self-financing form.

The council claims that the Bill will be of no use to consumers where a business has ceased trading because it could be impossible to trace the owners, even though they may have personal assets that creditors might be entitled to claim.

Under the Business Names Act, 1916, which would be repealed by the Bill, most traders must state their full names, addresses and other business

The council is also critical of the time limitations imposed on dissatisfied customers by th Bill. It suggests their remo and a statutory right of in tion of premises for thos a grievance.

A trading standard or journalist woul right to task fo owners under the cil claims, beca such inform available on has done thing "i ness".



SPORT

Football

Rumblings at Wigan as manager is dismissed again

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Ian McNeill yesterday became the thirteenth manager to be dismissed in the Football League this season, but not without protest from some members of the Wigan Athletic board who said he had not been given a fair chance. It was the second time he had been sacked by the club.

Mr McNeill, who helped Wigan achieve league status in 1978, has been offered the position of general manager. He intends giving the board his decision today, although his reaction to the news indicated that he had already made up his mind. Two directors took his side by resigning, but the chairman, Freddie Pye, expressed dissatisfaction with the team's position.

Mr Pye said he had been upset when seeing eight coachloads of disappointed Wigan supporters leaving Port Vale after last Saturday's 3—0 defeat. He said of Mr McNeill: "I accept that he has been successful in the past but I am interested in the present".

Claiming that a victory on Saturday would have placed Wigan in the top seven of the fourth division instead of mid-table, Mr McNeill said that he did not think he had been unsuccessful although obviously some people thought differently. Although he was sacked by the club in 1971 when the team were in the Northern Premier League, he was reengaged five years later.

Mr McNeill said that under his control Wigan had achieved "five pretty good seasons" in which they made a "handsome profit". Apparently in agreement with that claim, the vice-chairman, Graham Gorner, who was in charge of the club's financial affairs, resigned before Wednesday's special board meeting. He said he did not attend because he disagreed with "what was to be done".

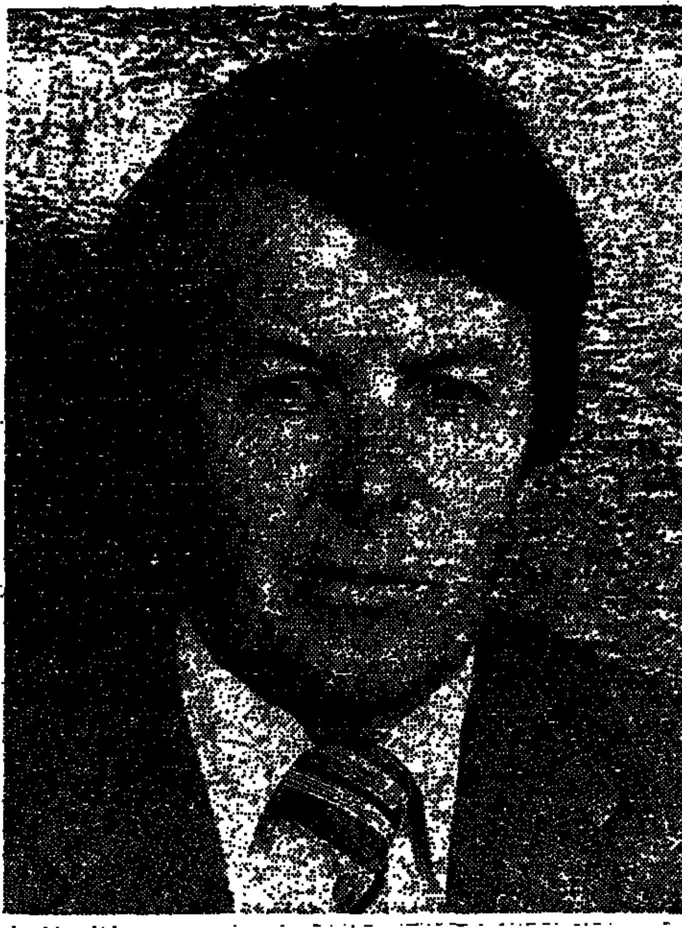
Brian Connolly, another director, resigned after the meeting. He said: "A manager does not turn from being a good one to a bad one overnight. I don't believe we are giving Mr McNeill a chance". Fred Eyre, a coach, has taken managerial control on a temporary basis.

Ten days ago the league club chairman made a "gentleman's agreement" that in future they would not "poach" each other's managers during the season. Although there is no evidence that in this particular case any other manager has been approached, it may suggest that clubs will find it difficult to break away from the traditional method of showing supporters that the board are reacting to any lack of success.

The persistent chronicle of Crystal Palace and Wimbledon's affairs was extended yesterday when Ron Noades, now managing director of Palace, said he was willing to give the Wimbledon board a proxy to vote his one-third control "whichever way they wish". This might mean that he could avoid coming into conflict with the League who, at the chairmen's meeting, proposed that officials of one club should not be involved in another, except with the consent of the management committee.

The other managers to lose their jobs this season have been (the Press Association reports): August: Bill McGarry, Newcastle United; September: Alan Dicks, Bristol City, Martin Harvey, Carlisle, Jimmy Adamson, Leeds United, John King, Tranmere Rovers; October: Malcolm Allison, Manchester City, Tommy Docherty, Queen's Park Rangers, Bobby Campbell, Fulham, Bobby Smith, Swindon Town; December: Bill Asprey, Oxford United; January: Malcolm Allison, Crystal Palace, Tom McAnearney, Aldershot.

Chairman resigns: The Leatherhead chairman, John Hewlett, has resigned because of ill health. Mr Hewlett, who has been connected with Leatherhead for more than 30 years, will probably become the Isthmian League club's joint president at its annual general meeting. The vice-chairman, Tommy Dixon, is set to take over from Mr Hewlett, who is also chairman of the Surrey FAA.



McNeill, the 13th managerial victim of the season.

Barron must wait a while for recall by Palace

The Crystal Palace manager Dario Gradi has decided against recalling Barron to keep goal for the visit to Aston Villa tomorrow. Barron has recovered from a minor knee operation but will probably return against Everton the following week.

Fry retains his place in goal, but Murphy is ruled out with an ankle injury that threatens his place in the Republic of Ireland team to play Wales in Dublin on Tuesday. "We will make a decision tomorrow whether he pulls out of the Irish team", Mr Gradi said.

Murphy is replaced in midfield by Banfield, substitute in the team beaten 3—0 by Coventry on Tuesday—the third successive defeat since Mr Gradi took charge at Selhurst Park. Walsh is also omitted with Sealy returning to the attack. "Sealy told me I was wrong to leave him out of the Coventry game and he was right. I made a mistake." Mr Gradi said.

Dare, a 20-year-old full back who made his first senior appearance on Tuesday night, retains his place with Leahy substitute. Cannon, Gilbert and Lovell are still under suspension: Gerry Francis has been ordered to rest by a specialist.

Gary Williams became the third Villa player to go down with influenza symptoms. Williams, picked for the England under-21 squad next week, joined Mortimer, his captain, Swain, a fellow defender, on the sick list and was sent home by the manager, Ron Saunders. Mortimer, who has played in every game this season, reported for training yesterday but was ordered back home to rest.

Ritchie, at £500,000 Brighton's most expensive signing has damaged knee ligaments and may miss the visit of Liverpool. With Foster under treatment for a groin injury, Brighton could find themselves four short of full strength.

Their captain, Horton, is suspended and McNab was banned for one match by the FA yesterday.

Brighton's manager, Alan Mullery, said: "We are fighting to hold our place in the world's finest league and we are not prepared to go down without a real fight". But even if Brighton are relegated, British Caledonian Airways will continue to sponsor them over the next two seasons in a deal worth £122,000.

Ipswich Town will have Mariner back in the side for their home match against Wolverhampton Wanderers on Saturday. Mariner missed the 1—0 win over Middlesbrough in mid-week because of a foot and knee injury. Thissen is on World Cup duty with the Netherlands on Sunday.

Leeds player suspended for total of nine games

The young Leeds United player Gary Hamson, said: "This season has been a disaster for me", after the FA suspended him from football until April. He was given a two-match ban yesterday by a disciplinary commission for passing 40 points, but first has to serve a four-match suspension imposed last week for reaching 30 points. In addition, he has already served three automatic one-match bans for being sent off three times. His total of nine games suspension this season is believed to be a record under the FA's restructured points system.

"I accept full responsibility for what has happened. I have deserved all I have got because it has been my own fault", Hamson said. He has played in the first team nine times this season, with five games as substitute. He was injured at Norwich in the first game of the season and subsequently cut his head in training and needed 12 stitches.

Neil McNab, the Brighton and Hove Albion midfield player, received a one-match ban for reaching 20 disciplinary points—his third suspension this season arising from his sending-off against Norwich City last September.

McNab was sent off for pushing the referee. That brought him an automatic one-match ban and an appearance before the FA, where he was suspended for four matches and fined £500 for bringing the game into disrepute. The sending-off also gave him 12 of his 20 points and his latest ban means he will miss the home game against Liverpool on Saturday.

Southend United, the fourth division leaders, will be without Dave Cusack, a defender, for the next two matches after he had accumulated 20 disciplinary points. Terry Curran, of Sheffield Wednesday, who has already served a four-match ban this season, collected another two-game suspension for reaching 30 points.

Maradona on loan: Boca Juniors, modifying their tentative $9m agreement to buy Diego Maradona, will merely borrow him from Argentina Juniors until July next year for a smaller, undisclosed sum, the two clubs announced yesterday. No reason was given why the week-old agreement to transfer the player outright had been changed.

Yesterday's results

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Wembley 1, Metropolitan Police 3.
SCHOOLS MATCH: Westminster 0, Haileybury 0.
RUGBY UNION: British Colleges Cup: Semi-final round: Borough Road 16, Crewe & Alsager 10; Madeley 0, Jordan Hill 3. Other match: Newark 16, Derby 14.

Scots a step nearer English

The 1981-82 Scottish football season will open as planed on Saturday, August 8, but the start of league fixtures has been pushed back a fortnight to August 22.

This decision was reached by the Scottish League management committee in Glasgow yesterday after meeting to consider the possibility of falling into step with England, who do not begin until August 29.

Following the discussions, Jim Farry, the league secretary, announced the compromise date of August 22 for the start of championship games.

There had been fears that pools revenue would be lost by playing league fixtures on dates which did not coincide with the English season and would, therefore, not appear on treble chance coupons.

Scotland's 38 clubs stood to lose about £90,000 had they gone ahead with league fixtures throughout August, but this money will now be redeemable at the end of the season, which will spill over into at least the first two Saturdays of May, 1982.

The management committee also discussed the English league's recent decision to award three points for a win next season, but their verdict was unanimous that the points structure in Scotland should remain the same.

Exeter a match for the best

Tottenham Hotspur are not taking lightly the threat from Exeter, the third division club, whom they meet in the FA Cup quarter final round a fortnight tomorrow. Peter Shreeves Tottenham's assistant manager, and the club's former manager, Bill Nicholson, watched Exeter thrash Newcastle United 4—0 on Wednesday before giving a preliminary report to Keith Burkinshaw.

Clearly the Spurs scouts have got the message that Exeter are no pushovers as Leicester and Newcastle have discovered to their cost. In front of 17,000 loyal supporters at their homely St James Park ground Exeter are a match for the best although Mr Burkinshaw did point out: "We have home advantage and that will make a big difference on the day."

While Spurs will field a side that includes their £1m striker Steve Archibald and other expensive signings, the Exeter manager, Brian Godfrey, has taken his side to the quarter-finals with a team which cost a net total of £52,000. Exeter are quick to point out that their 25-goal leading scorer, Tony Kellow, has made money for the club. Since he was originally signed from Falmouth, the Western League club for £1,500, Kellow has been sold to Blackpool for £105,000 before being bought back

Cricket

Bombardment has only just begun

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Port of Spain, Feb 19

"Don't blame the batsmen, praise the bowlers", Ian Botham, the England captain, said after West Indies had won the first Test match here yesterday by an innings and 79 runs. All right, the West Indian bowling was immensely formidable—I have never seen it more consistently good—but, like it or not, it met little resistance.

Tomorrow the England party leaves for Guyana, having lost by an overwhelming margin a match which even so early in the tour they seemed to have a chance of winning. West Indies beat them in spite of losing the equivalent of a full day's play, and at Georgetown, Bridgetown, Antigua and Kingston, where the remaining tests are to be played, Holding, Roberts, Croft and Garner may well find faster pitches.

There were times here, as these four kept hammering away, when one doubted whether even the vastly more gifted England batting sides of the fifties and sixties would have got on top of them. They would have survived of course, just as the indomitable Boycott did, but dominance of the kind that most sides at some time or other have been able to manage in the West Indies would, I believe, have been beyond all but a few great stroke players such as Compton, Graveney, Dexter and May—and then only on a good day.

Unfortunately for England, or anyone else who plays them, the West Indian pace quartet is getting, if anything, better. When first they played together, at Brisbane in December 1979, Australia in their second innings scored 448 for six declared. It took them a very long time, it is true, and it was a perfect batting pitch, but they did it. New Zealand too, a year ago, made 460 in Christchurch against these same four bowlers. Even England themselves scored 391 for seven at Old Trafford last summer and 370 at The Oval.

Yet, on the evidence of the past few days and perhaps because they keep learning more of the individual weaknesses of the English batsmen, Holding and the rest seem to be growing in stature. There have been other Test sides to have contained four bowlers each with 100 Test wickets, but never all of the same fierce pace as Lloyd's are now. This is a new dimension. By the end of the series we shall be thankful for a break from watching one after the other of them pounding away for hour after interminable hour—but not half as thankful as England's batsmen will be for a break from having to play them.

What happened to England yesterday is what happened to Australia last winter despite their encouraging start in Brisbane. At Melbourne, in the second Test match of that series, Australia scored 156 and 259 with an appreciably stronger batting side than Botham's; at Adelaide, in the third and last Test match, by when they were shell shocked, they made 203 and 165. The outlook, then, is bleak: what else could it be when you have a threadbare batting side opposed to so remorseless an attack?

Yesterday, as they know only too well, England should have saved the game. Next week they will try again, in another one-day international on Thursday and then the second five-day Test match, starting on Saturday week. Gatting will be brought in, no doubt, to try to strengthen the batting; so, I hope, will Butcher to give it an air of challenge. It will have done them no harm missing the first bombardment. This now, though, has all the more the makings of a long and difficult tour.

The day after tomorrow comes a four-day game against Guyana, whose side, if it plays as announced, will include Lloyd, Croft and Bacchus under the captaincy of Kallicharran. The Bourda Oval at Georgetown is, as a rule, a lovely ground for batting. All being well someone will recover some confidence there: no one lost more of it in the Test match than Gooch, whose 41 of the first innings was even a harrowing experience. Like everyone else he must be looking forward to moving on in the morning.

Match fades into oblivion

Napier, Feb 19.—A surprise appeal against bad light 40 minutes before the close of play ended the three-day match between the Indians and Central Districts which petered out in a draw today despite three declarations. The Indians declared at 195 for three in their second innings setting the home team the difficult task of making 231 in 80 minutes plus 20 overs which they never attempted.

The openers, Pierce and Jones, put up the shutters and scored only 29 runs off 13 overs in just over an hour. The appeal against the light, apparently supported by the captain, O'Sullivan, left spectators puzzled and annoyed. The pitch, which had produced three centuries on the first two days, showed no sign of offering any more assistance to the bowlers.

The Indians began the day at 12 for no wicket and the opening partnership between Chauhan and Srinivasan was worth 144 in 170 minutes when Srinivasan was caught at the wicket from a bottom edge for 90, his highest score of the tour.

After Binny had been caught off a skier for 15, Chauhan's, patient three and a half hour innings ended at 79 with a fine catch by the Test match wicketkeeper, Smith, diving in front of first slip.

SCORES: Indians 312 for 7 dec and 195 for 3 dec (T. E. Srinivasan 90, C. P. S. Chauhan 79); Central Districts 277 for 7 dec and 29 for no wicket.—Agencies.

Tennis

Argentina lift ban on Vilas in time for Davis Cup tie

Buenos Aires, Argentina, Feb. 19.—Guillermo Vilas ended an 11-month-old dispute with the Argentine Tennis Association today and agreed to return to Davis Cup competition, starting with next month's first-round tie against West Germany.

The tennis association, in turn, lifted its suspension against the country's top player and thus assured the participation of the second-ranked Argentine Jose Luis Clerc, who had promised to boycott the Davis Cup in support of Vilas.

Vilas was suspended last March after publicly criticizing the association during a dispute over payment for Davis Cup matches. The affair ended bitterly when Vilas and Clerc lost the semi-final round series to Czechoslovakia that month. Roberto Fernandez, the association president, would not disclose the financial terms of the agreement with Vilas. "Guillermo agreed to play for Argentina, and that's the important thing", he said.

Vilas commented: "All human beings can make mistakes. It's all over now and I understand everything has been overcome." He and Clerc will join Ricardo Cano, Eduardo Bengoechea and Gustavo Guerrero in the team to meet West Germany in Munich on March 6, 7 and 8 in the first round.

Vilas is ranked fourth in the world by the Association of Tennis Professionals and Clerc has consistently been rated in the top 15.—AP.

If Argentina are strengthened, Australia may be weakened. Paul McNamee, their Davis Cup mainstay, is in grave danger of missing the first round tie against France in Lyons on March 6-8. The Wimbledon and world champion doubles player is troubled by a back injury he suffered during practice this week at Melbourne's Kooyong tennis stadium and is racing against time to recover.

If McNamee is unable to play Australia's hopes will recede. If fit, McNamee will definitely partner Peter McNamara in the doubles and he is also likely to fill one of the singles berths. Otherwise, either Kim Warwick, the Australian Open runner-up, or Rod Frawley is likely to find himself in the team.

McNamee feels he is extremely doubtful but in the knowledge that he is receiving treatment twice a day, the Australian Davis Cup captain Neal Fraser has not yet ruled him out.—Agencies.

Borg sees off McEnroe in just over an hour

Sydney, Feb 19.—The Wimbledon champion, Bjorn Borg, showed his qualities here tonight when he trounced the United States Open champion, John McEnroe, by 6—0, 6—4, in the first match of their three-match exhibition series.

More than 2,500 spectators in the Hordern Pavilion were disappointed by McEnroe's performance after paying $A100 (about £50) a seat. The first set was over in 25 minutes and the match lasted only 65 minutes. Although McEnroe had not lost a set 6—0 to Borg before, Jimmy Connors beat him by that score in the third set in the semi-final round of the United States Open last year.

Borg's topspin had McEnroe on the defensive from the opening game, which, together with the eighth game of the second set, was crucial to the outcome. Borg, showing no signs of the virus that has affected him for the past month, gained his fourth service break of the match in the seventh game of the second set to lead 4—3, but McEnroe had the chance to get back into the match in the next game when Borg was 0—40 on his service. Borg showed the trade marks of a true champion by hitting three outright winners to draw level at deuce and then going on to hold a service for a 5—3 advantage.

Borg, who now has eight victories to McEnroe's five in meetings between them, is favourite to win the $A30,000 gold racket for the winner plus a share of the prize money, believed to total $A1.3m. The second match in the series is here tomorrow and the third is in Melbourne on Saturday.

The spectators never become more than mildly enthusiastic about the game and McEnroe said he felt he had let them down after his surprisingly swift capitulation. "I felt embarrassed. You don't want people to think badly of this because of all the money involved", he said. "It was because we played close games at Wimbledon and in the United States championships that we came together here". Borg won his fifth successive Wimbledon title with a thrilling five-set win over McEnroe, a defeat the American avenged in similar fashion in the final of the United States Open.

McEnroe never felt he had a chance of getting into the match after the opening game. He took Borg to deuce on the Swede's service, but then his volleying went to pieces. McEnroe enjoyed some success in the second set by winning three successive service games, but his return of service continued to let him down and his frustration boiled over in the fifth game when, after netting an easy volley, he hurled his racket into the net.

"I was hurrying shots because I was tired", McEnroe said. "I played a three-and-a-half hour match on clay with Vilas recently, but it didn't worry me. I don't know why I was so tired. I've never lost 6—0 to Borg before. It was just so frustrating".—Agencies.

Champion seeks third title

John McEnroe will defend his title at the grand prix tournament at the Queen's Club, London, from June 8 to 14. Winner of the tournament, which is sponsored by Stella Artois, for the past two years, he confirmed his entry yesterday for the £70,000, pre-Wimbledon event.

McEnroe can expect vociferous support in the early rounds, for the sponsors are making 1,000 centre court seats available to schoolchildren on the first two days. "We believe we should help young people to see the best tennis possible, played by some of the best players in the world," a tournament official said.

The sponsors will again operate their system of giving spectators tickets for another period of play if the weather interferes on any day. "This system, unique in British sport, has already cost us £30,000 in the past two years", the tournament director, Clive Bernstein, said.

However, if the tournament is blessed with a fine week, British tennis will benefit to the extent of £25,000. This sum would be given to the Queen's Club for new covering of their indoor courts, which would be available to international teams for practice.

NASHVILLE: Avon Futures tournament: First round: K. Sands (US) beat S. Simmonds (Italy) 4—6, 6—3, 6—3; C. Vanier (France) beat M. Calleja (France) 7—6, 6—1; N. Schutte (Netherlands) beat S. Rollinson (South Africa) 7—5, 6—4; T. Lewis (US) beat M. Skuherska (Czechoslovakia) 6—2, 6—3; C. Tanvier (France) beat E. Pfaff (WG) 6—4, 6—2; G. Coles (GB) beat J. Mundel (South Africa) 6—3, 7—5.

After the first two games, it is easy for Connors

La Quinta (California), Feb 19.—Jimmy Connors, the top seed, gained an easy second round victory over unseeded Chris Dunk, 6—3, 6—1, yesterday in a $175,000 tournament here.

Connors will face Terry Moor in the third round. Moor upset 15th seed Jose Higueras, of Spain, 6—3, 6—1. Another upset was the defeat of 10th-seeded Johan Kriek, South Africa, by Trey Waltke, 7—5, 6—1.

Ivan Lendl, the second seed, from Czechoslovakia, Harold Solomon, Roscoe Tanner, Eliot Teltscher and Brian Gottfried were all seeded players who advanced.

Lendl and Solomon were extended to three sets—Lendl beat Martin Davis in just over two hours, 7—6, 6—7, 6—3, while Solomon defeated Russell Simpson, 6—7, 6—3, 6—0.

RESULTS (US unless stated): Second round: T. Moor beat J. Higueras (Spain), 6—3, 6—1; Pat Dupre beat C. Roger-Vasselin (France), 6—7, 7—5, 6—4; P. Dent (Australia) beat R. Van't Hof, 6—3, 6—4; P. Kronk (Australia) beat B. Walts, 6—4, 6—4; T. Smid (Czechoslovakia) beat F. Buehning, 7—6, 7—6; E. Dibbs beat R. Frawley (Australia) 6—1, 6—4; E. Teltscher beat G. Hardie, 6—1, 6—0; B. Gottfried beat J. Austin, 6—3, 6—4; M. Purcell beat S. Mayer, 6—4, 4—6, 6—0; T. Waltke beat J. Kriek (SA), 7—5, 6—1; H. Solomon beat R. Simpson (NZ), 6—7, 6—3, 6—0; R. Tanner beat B. Mitton (SA), 6—3, 3—6, 6—3; H. Pfister beat R. Gehring (WG), 6—2, 6—2; R. Lutz beat N. Saviano, 6—4, 6—4; I. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat M. Davis, 7—6, 6—7, 6—3; J. Connors beat C. Dunk, 6—3, 6—1.

Houston (Texas), Feb 19.—Hana Mandlikova, of Czechoslovakia, elevated to the top of the seedings with Tracy Austin's withdrawal, had to struggle to beat Mary Lou Piatek, 3—6, 7—5, 6—2, yesterday in the first round of the $100,000 Houston championship.

Miss Mandlikova dropped the first set when Miss Piatek used her powerful two-handed backhand to break serve. Miss Mandlikova, who celebrated her 19th birthday today, was troubled by double faults, but rallied to tie the second set 5—5. She was angered when the umpire ruled one of her serves a fault, but then won the next two games and the set.

She took the first game of the final set, although Miss Piatek fought back to win the next two games. However, Miss Mandlikova's driving serve and drop shots won her the next five games.

RESULTS (US unless stated), first round: H. Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) beat M. L. Piatek, 3—6, 7—5, 6—2; K. Latham beat R. Blount, 6—2, 6—0; B. Bunge (WG) beat B. Stove (Netherlands), 7—6, 6—3.—Associated Press.

Hockey

Busy weekend for Spanish women's team

By Joyce Whitehead

The Spanish women's team get their first taste of English hockey this weekend. Though they have fewer clubs in the whole country than London alone, they are a keen and well organized side, and the three matches have been carefully planned for the benefit of both countries.

Their first match is against Thames Polytechnic today at 3.0. Tomorrow they meet England B at Bedford (3.0) and on Sunday they play an All-England Women's Hockey Association side at the Bank of England's Roehampton ground at 11.30.

The Association XI includes Rhona Bradley (Cumbria), who though selected for the first time for the North this season, was unable to play in the recent territorial matches because of a broken arm.

While all that takes place the territorial junior tournament will be played at Crystal Palace. It will be three gruelling days for the under-18s of the five territories. The 10 matches will be followed by the Possibles v Probables game and the announcement of the England junior squad on Sunday afternoon.

ENGLAND: J. Edwards (Durham); G. Whitehead (English Universities), R. Squires (Devon), S. Franks (Somerset), S. Corley (Gloucestershire), A. Appleyard (WRAF and Kent), D. Brooke (Bedfordshire), P. Neill (Bedford College), R. Bradley (Cumbria), T. Stoneholme (Yorkshire), L. Bates (Gloucestershire). Reserves: M. Flanagan (Warwickshire), S. Roberts (Suffolk), C. Dudley (Lancashire).

Oxford University have selected the following XI for the women's hockey University match.

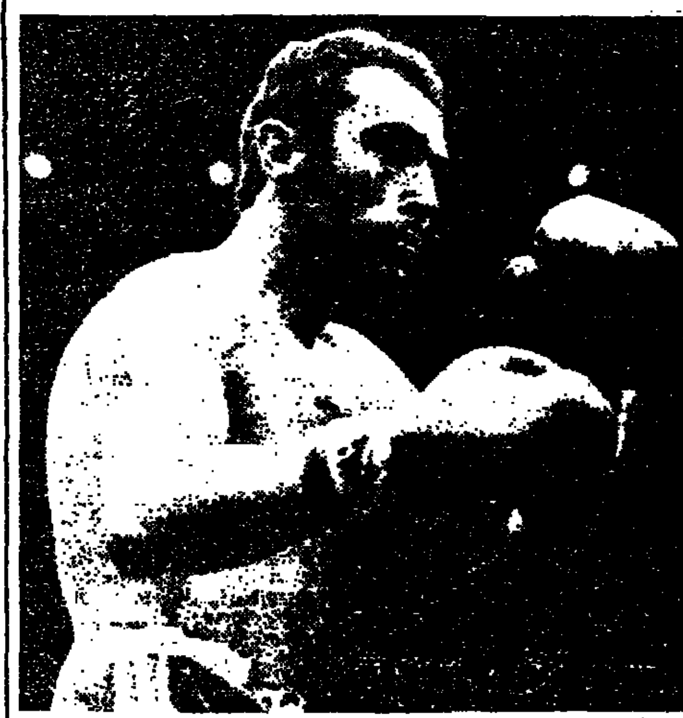
TEAM: J. Carey; A. Wheeler, C. Cole, D. Manbett, K. Bishop, V. Godfrey, R. Bucknell, F. Barlins, K. Hardie, R. Slater, H. Barker.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FIRST DIVISION: Birmingham City v Norwich City.
SECOND DIVISION: Cardiff City v Notts County.
FOURTH DIVISION: Doncaster Rovers v York City.
RUGBY UNION: Abertillery v [illegible]; Bridgend v Bath (7.15); Glamorgan Wanderers v Cardiff (7.0); Maesteg v Neath (7.0); Nottingham v [illegible]; Metropolitan Police v [illegible] (7.0); London Irish [illegible]; [illegible] v Penarth; [illegible] v Coventry [illegible].
HOCKEY: Women's junior territorial tournament: South v East (1.0); Midlands v North (5.0).

Boxing



Alan Minter: waits for return bout with Hagler.

Chance to compare notes on Minter and Sibson

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

Who would win if Alan Minter, the former world middleweight champion, met Tony Sibson, the European and Commonwealth champion? The answer to the bout that will produce the biggest domestic receipts of all time will come sometime in November, but those who think they know all the answers will get a rare chance to have another think after seeing the two boxers in action on the same bill on St Patrick's Day, March 17, at Wembley Arena.

Minter faces Ernie Singletory, of Philadelphia, who has lost only one of his 21 bouts and Sibson meets Nick Ortiz, of Puerto Rico, who was a successful light-middleweight and as a middleweight beat Bennie Briscoe who, poor man, has become the instant yardstick of anyone who aspires to greatness.

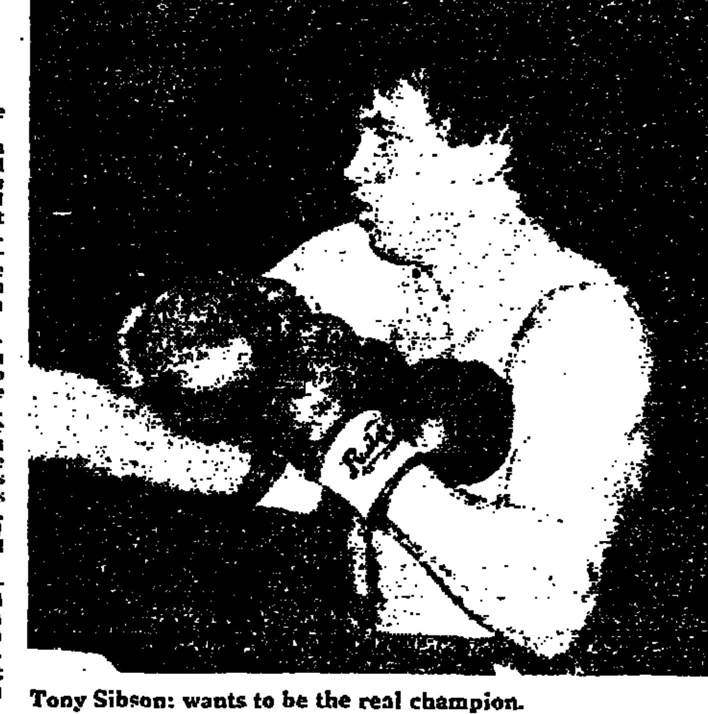
The meeting between the two British middleweights is building up to a "great fight if Tony keeps on knocking them over", Minter says. But it has been delayed because Minter still has not got Marvin Hagler out of his system. "All I think of is boxing for the championship of the world" he says.

Hagler has promised Minter a bout in the autumn. "He wanted something easier than Minter in April" his manager, Doug Bidwell said. In the meantime Minter must walk the tightrope of 10-rounders.

Sibson remains suitably deferential. He said yesterday that he would like to defend his European title against Minter to establish himself as the real champion.

On the same night, the European heavyweight champion John L. Gardner, attempts to move up in the world by taking on Ossie "Jaws" Ocasio, of Puerto Rico. Ocasio has met Larry Holmes, the world champion, and has beaten Jimmy Young twice but because of a period of inactivity he has dropped out of the top 10. As Mickey Duff, Gardner's manager, says if his man wins well he could find himself in the rankings and in the same ring with Holmes.

Amateur farewell: Barry McGuigan, aged 19, who won a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games, will bid farewell to amateur boxing when he represents Ireland in the featherweight division against England in Dublin today.



Tony Sibson: wants to be the real champion.

Athletics

Coe receives special open grant

Sebastian Coe has been given an open-ended grant but would give it up if athletics went "open". The Sports Aid Foundation announced yesterday that Coe, the Olympic 1500 metre champion, is to succeed Robin Cousins as the recipient of the Sir John Cohen Memorial award.

Coe accepts that athletics could change and says: "My attitude is that sooner or later I will be in the position where I will be competing in a sport that is not 'amateur'. If athletics went open I would be quite happy to hand my award back".

The award enables Coe to meet the costs of his training, as submitted through the British Amateur Athletic Board, during the rest of his career as an amateur international.

Only one of these awards is available for a British amateur performer at any one time and each has been made to honour the memory of the man who, as president of Tesco supermarkets, launched the SAF lottery scheme. Some £400,000 has been raised for the SAF by this method in four years.

Although Coe will be based at Loughborough University for most of this season he will be on [illegible]. "I will need to use the grant for day to day expenses incurred in training and travelling", he [illegible].

Septuagenarian marathoners

Edward Peacock, of Chiswick, Stanley Tugwood, of Burgh[illegible], and Roy Collins, of Bristol, are among the 7,500 runners in the London Marathon, sponsored by Gillette, from Greenwich Park to Buckingham Palace on March 29. All three are in their seventies: Peacock is 73 and Tugwood and Collins 70.

The oldest woman will be Madge Sharples, aged 64, of Winchester. Dennis Moore, of Littlehampton, who has been blind since birth, will compete with the aid of a cord attached to his running partner, Wally Scott, of Aldershot, and hopes to complete the course in a little over 3 hours.

Among the competitors are expected to be 1,500 from overseas.

Motor rallying

Treacherous forest roads

Snow in the North-East and North Yorkshire during the night posed a threat to the Mintex international rally as 102 competitors gathered at Newcastle-on-Tyne yesterday. Officials said some of the roads in the forests were treacherously slippery with ice and drifting snow.

The event has attracted a top class international entry for 23 hours of concentrated driving which includes over 200 miles of special stages on Ministry of Defence land, and the North Yorkshire forests.

A battle royal is expected between the top seeds, Pentti Airikkala, a Finn in the Rothmans Escort RS prepared by David Sutton; Sweden's Per Eklund, in a Toyota Celica; the Britons Tony Pond in the DTV Chevette HRS, Jimmy McRae in the Opel Ascona 400 and Russell Brookes in the Sunbeam Talbot Lotus which won the Lombard-RAC rally.

Audi Quattro for Mikkola: Hannu Mikkola will be at the wheel of the four-wheel drive Audi Quattro, in which he won the Swedish Rally, for the Rally of Portugal from March 3 to 8, Agence France-Presse report from Lisbon. Fiat have entered a strong team, headed by another Finn, Markku Alen. Alen, who will drive a Fiat 131 Abarth, won in 1975, 1977 and 1978. Jean Ragnotti, of France, who won at Monte Carlo with the Renault 5 Turbo, has not entered.

Motor racing

Operation for Regazzoni

Washington, Feb 19.—Clay Regazzoni, the Swiss racing driver, was undergoing a 12-hour operation today at Georgetown University Medical Center in an attempt to give him greater use of his legs which had been partly paralysed after an accident at Long Beach.

A team of four surgeons were trying to straighten a bar that had been inserted to keep his spine straight. The bar had got out of place and Regazzoni's spine had begun to curve.

The operation will be in three stages: the surgeons will try to remove the bar and straighten the spine, cut a piece out of the vertebra that is pressing on it, and retract the vertebra. Asked if there was any possibility of Regazzoni driving again, a spokesman said the question would have to be asked some days after the operation.—AP.

First for Oslo

Between 4,000 and 5,000 runners are expected for the first official Oslo Marathon on July 12, an event which follows the annual Oslo track and field meeting.

Cycling

Favourites take over lead

Milan, Feb 19.—Patrick Sercu and Francesco Moser won the afternoon motor-paced event, recovered one lap and regained the lead in the six-day race here during today's sixth leg. Sercu and Moser, the favourites to win the event at the local indoor stadium, overtook the overnight leaders, Wilfried Peffgen and Pietro Algeri, who dropped to third place.

The Australian pair of Danny Clark and Don Allan held fourth place ahead of Rene Pijnen and Albert Fritz. Gert Frank and Moreno Argentin won the afternoon American-style event. But still lagged one lap behind the leaders, in seventh place.

LEADING PLACINGS: 1, P. Sercu (Belgium) and F. Moser (Italy) [illegible]; 2, [illegible]; 3, W. Peffgen (West Germany) and P. Algeri (Italy) [illegible]; [illegible] D. Clark and D. Allan (Australia) [illegible].

Canoeing

Calm financial waters

By a Special Correspondent

The 1981 world championships in wild water, slalom and racing canoeing, which are to be held at Bala and at Holme Pierrepont in July, received a £300,000 boost at the official launch in London yesterday.

Dick Jeeps, the chairman of the Sports Council, announced that the council were putting up such a large amount of cash because of the lasting benefits which the extra facilities would have, for training and competition at international level in both canoeing and rowing.

The total budget for "Canoe '81" is more than £1m. Two thousand competitors and officials from more than 40 countries are expected to attend the triple world championships.

The wild water and slalom events are to be held between July 16 and 24 at Bala, in North Wales, where £50,000 is being spent on developing Tryweryn. The Welsh authorities are to release 250 million gallons of water from Llyn Celyn dam over the Tryweryn to Bala Lake, thereby guaranteeing sufficient white water for an exciting competition.

At Nottingham improvements totalling £80,000 will be made to Holme Pierrepont water sports centre. These will include new starting and finishing points on the 2,000m course, improved judging and press facilities, new canoe racks and the latest electronics and scoreboard.

The world racing championships take place at Holme Pierrepont between July 29 and August 2. The Commonwealth slalom and white water championships are at Trawfully, Scotland, between August 4 and 11.

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Rugby Union

Late Billy Beaumont has Queen's pardon

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Bill Beaumont turned up half-way through England's training stint at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, yesterday. But he had the perfect excuse, having been invited to a small lunch party with the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh at Buckingham Palace.

England's captain was delighted to hear that both of them had thoroughly enjoyed the quadrangular international in celebration of the Welsh centenary in November. He had also been relieved to discover that the original invitation was genuine. "When the Queen's Equerry came through on the telephone about a month ago", he said, "I thought at first that it was one of the lads taking the mickey!"

Beaumont, not unnaturally, sees tomorrow's Calcutta Cup match against Scotland at Twickenham as being make or break. "If we lose this one, on top of what happened in Wales, we'll be back to square one and everyone will have forgotten what happened last season."

He had been impressed by what he had seen on television of the Scottish victory over Wales, particularly the play of their pack and the speed of their loose forwards. "Obviously", he added, "we don't want the game to get too loose. I'm looking for a performance from England like the one they gave in the first half at Murrayfield last season.

"I think we have the most talented backs in the home countries, and we want to give them their head, letting them have the ball a lot quicker than we managed to do in Cardiff."

He is confident that the new stand-off half, Huw Davies, will settle in well. This is much to be hoped, because there was news yesterday that John Horton's hamstring injury is serious enough for him to ask his club, Bath, not to consider him for the next six weeks. This must rule Horton out of contention for England's last two internationals, against Ireland in Dublin and France at Twickenham. England trained purposefully under Mike Davis, the coach, for the best part of two hours in flurries of snow and sleet. It is clear that they want to use the pace and strength of their other new cap, Nick Jeavons, on the burst behind shortened lineouts.

The Scottish party flew to London yesterday after training at Murrayfield. They will have another more gentle spin at the H. A. C. ground in the City at two o'clock this afternoon.

Alan Tomes, the Hawick lock forward, missed Scotland's workout. Tomes, who scored Scotland's opening try against Wales 12 days ago, was sitting an examination in connexion with his work as an official with the North East of England Gas Board.

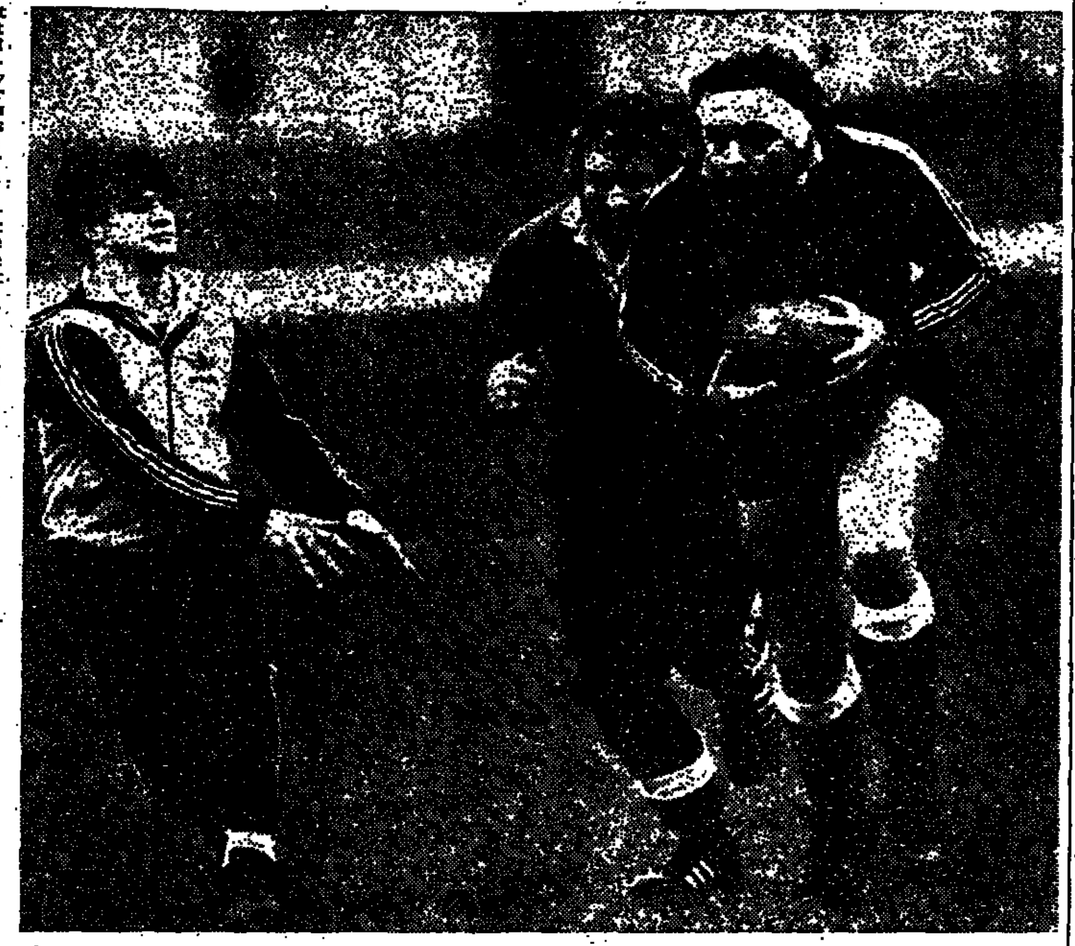
He will fly south independently today to join the remainder of the party.

Scotland's other lock, Bill Cuthbertson, who injured an arm in the 15—6 victory over Wales, took part in yesterday's training at Murrayfield under the watchful eye of Jim Telfer, the coach, and was pronounced fit to play.

ODDS: England 4—9, Scotland 2—1, draw 14—1. Wales 6—4, Ireland 11—8, draw 14—1.

Australian stand

Wellington, Feb 19.—Robert Muldoon, New Zealand's Prime Minister, today said that Australia had decided not to provide transit facilities for a South African rugby team on its way to and from New Zealand later this year. Mr Muldoon's statement caused surprise in Canberra as there had been no announcement by the government on the matter but officials said that it was Australian policy not to facilitate South African sporting teams in any way in line with the Gleneagles Agreement of 1977.



Newcomer Huw Davies (left) has no ned to ask: "Where are you going, Billy boy?" of England's captain.

Welsh plea for better crowd behaviour

The Welsh Rugby Union is seriously concerned about the declining standard of spectator behaviour at the National Stadium, Cardiff. On the eve of tomorrow's international against Ireland, a statement has been issued deploring the actions of a "boorish minority" and urging spectators to refrain from indulging in "boos, catcalls and whistling" when opponents are kicking at goal.

"Wales enjoys tremendous prestige throughout the rugby world, not only for the prowess of its players on the field, but also for the enthusiasm and sporting attitudes of its supporters", the statement reads.

"Sadly, however, due to actions of a boorish minority, that prestige is being eroded and the President, committee and team earnestly appeal to all spectators on Saturday to show a very high standard of sporting and general personal behaviour before, during and after the game.

"Please give to our opponents the same respect as afforded the Welsh players."

Wales will concentrate on their own play and on dictating tactics, Jeff Squire, their reappointed captain, said yesterday after the final team run-out at Bridgend. "Ireland are always a worry to the Welsh", he said. "They have a good side, but basically we are going to concentrate on our own play and dictate things the way we want them to go".

Wales, he added, had a good record at the National Stadium, which was an obvious advantage, but they had something to prove after the game against Scotland. Almost everyone played badly and he was hoping for a backlash. Squire added: "What I am looking for is commitment up front and the production of more quality ball, and a bit more fluency behind".

Keith Rowland, chairman of the selectors, said: "Everybody is fit, enthusiastic and waiting for Saturday".

In the training session, particular attention was paid to rucks, mauls and tackles, where the Welsh have given away numerous penalties this season. John Lloyd, the national coach, warned his team to eliminate "silly penalties". He said: "Ireland have two very good kickers in Campbell and Ward and we just cannot afford to give anything away".

Ireland had an hour-long practice before departing for Cardiff yesterday afternoon. Tom Kiernan, the coach, said: "It's going to be a tough game. The Welsh are always difficult to beat in Cardiff. This applies on Saturday, even though they've made a number of changes.

"I expect the new caps will be trying hard to prove themselves and justify their selection and that's going to make it extra difficult for us."

There is little likelihood of Kiernan making recalled fly-half Tony Ward his number one goal-kicker instead of Ollie Campbell, who has been moved to centre.

Although Campbell had an unhappy time in the defeat by France two weeks ago, Kiernan said: "There's little point in making a change of place kickers at this stage. However, that will depend on how well Ollie Campbell is kicking".

There are no late changes in the Irish team. All 15, plus the six substitutes, took part in yesterday's practice.

Argentine opposition

Buenos Aires, Feb 19.—Argentina will play two rugby union internationals against England in Buenos Aires later this year, the Argentine Rugby Federation has announced. The matches are scheduled for May 30 and June 6.

Support for Burgess comes from Gosforth

The Northern merit table leaders, Gosforth, have come out in favour of a league system for Rugby Union. They would like to see 11 teams in each league, each club playing five games at home and five away. They are also against scrapping the John Player Cup.

The club have accepted the other aims of the Burgess report: the downgrading of the county championship and the setting up of a divisional championship.

Gosforth provided 12 of the *Northumberland* team that won the county final against Gloucestershire last month. Northumberland approve of leagues, but want to keep the county championship and see it played on four Saturdays instead of five. They are against the idea of a divisional championship. Durham have voted *in much the same way but want* no changes at all in the county championship.

The three international Bridgend players who have lost their places in the Welsh side—J. P. R. Williams, Fenwick and Gareth Williams—play for their club tonight. But Bridgend, who are *expecting one of their biggest* crowds of the season, are deprived of Wales new half-backs, Gerald Williams and Gary Pearce.

The former England B player, Gifford, has recaptured his place at scrum half for Moseley at Abertillery today. He has had a running battle with Steve Morley.

Gifford has the break; Morley the pass. A combination of the two would produce an inter*national player. Since Morley was* re-introduced, Moseley have scored five tries in each of their last five matches.

Rugby League

Entente stays cordiale as French clear the air

By Keith Macklin

Officials of the Rugby League yesterday rejoiced at the news *from France which indicates a* sudden rapprochement between Union and League in that country. Apparently the French Rugby *League were so horrified by* recent statements from the Rugby League Secretary General, David Oxley, that the game in France "*is as professional as the game* in England" that they moved hastily to repair breaches with the French Rugby Union and to pla*cate the French Government's* sports ministry.

Rugby League in France is registered with the Government as *an amateur sport*, and French Rugby League officials are to meet their counterparts in Rugby Union to draw up renewed codes of *behaviour forbidding poaching of* players between the two bodies. This is the outcome which has so delighted David Oxley and his *colleagues in England.*

The contretemps blew up recently when it was alleged that the brilliant centre, Jean-Marc Bourret, had been offered an inducement in the nature of £20,000 to switch his allegiances from Pia Rugby League Club to Perpignan Rugby Union Club. These allegations have been heatedly and roundly denied on all sides, but the hornets nest which was stirred-up by the controversy will lead to questions being asked of the French Rugby Union at the international board meeting at Cardiff next month.

*M Albert Ferrasse, the presi*dent of the French Rugby Union, said that Bourret could not be regarded as a professional player since Rugby League in France is registered as an amateur sport. Therefore when he joined Perpignan from Pia he was moving from another amateur federation. M Ferrasse added that if it was proved that Bourret had received money in changing clubs he would be banned by both Rugby Union and Rugby League in France.

Although cynical observers of the Rugby League scene in England will see something shifty in the French manoeuvres, there is no doubt that the main purpose of Mr Oxley in writing a letter to the Rugby Union outlining the French situation was to "clear the air" between the two handling codes in France. An agreement outlawing poaching and other irregularities was signed between the two sports in 1972 and this will be renewed, under the joint imprimateur of M Ferrasse and French Rugby League president, Rene Mauries, conveniently before the International Board meeting.

David Oxley said yesterday: "We are delighted at this successful outcome, which we think can only be good for rugby in general. The main purpose of *raising the matter was* to bring together the two codes in France to clarify the position regarding the poaching that has been going *on on both sides. For several* seasons now Rugby Union and Rugby League in France have been at each other's throats. The statements from France certainly clarify the situation, and we regard this as a major victory."

Incidental to the events in *France and a postscript is a state*ment from Fulham that they would be interested in signing Bourret should he find himself out in the cold in his own country.

Five England new caps

By Keith Macklin

The tall Cumbrian second row man, Bill Pattinson, is the odd forward out in England's final selection for the European championship game with France at Headingley on Saturday. Pattinson is the forward to drop to substitute, with the Wigan forward, Steve O'Neill, and the young Warrington forwards, Brian Case and Ian Potter, gaining their first *Caps. Pattinson can still hope* for a Cap if he gets on to the *field as substitute at some point* during the game.

There are five new Caps in all *in the team announced yesterday, the others* being the Whitehaven scrum half, Arnold Walker, and the Castleford wing three-quarter, Steve Fenton.

The final European championship game, England v Wales, will be played at Craven Park, Hull, on March 18. The referee will be John Holdsworth, the 34-year-old Leeds official who has made a remarkably rapid rise in the game. He was appointed a grade one referee in November, and in quick succession has been a touch judge at an *international* in France, referee at a colts international, and now referee of a full international.

ENGLAND (v France): Fairbairn (Wigan); Drummond (Leigh), Joyner (Castleford), Smith (Hull KR), Fenton (Castleford); Kelly (Warrington), Walker (Whitehaven); O'Neill (Wigan), Ward (Leeds), Case, Potter (Warrington), Casey (Hull KR), Pinner (St Helens). Substitutes: Woods (Leigh), Pattinson (Workington Town). Reserve to travel, Ball (Barrow).

Olympic Games

IOC 'substantial segment' opposes permanent site

Lausanne (Switzerland) Feb 19. —*An offer to move the summer* Olympic Games to a permanent site in Greece, its original home, is opposed by "a substantial seg*ment*" of the International Olympic Committee, a spokesman said here today.

The IOC executive board will discuss a report on the proposal, based on recent visits to Greece, at its meeting in Los Angeles next week. Soundings of the 83 IOC members by Juan Antonio *Samaranch, the IOC President* show "there is clearly a substantial segment which disapproves of the idea of a permanent site for the games, as it contradicts the universal nature of the games", the IOC reported.

The spokesman said national committees would be asked for *their opinions before a decision is* made at the IOC Congress next September in Baden-Baden, West Germany.

Greece offered Kalasa, near the site of ancient Olympia, as a permanent site. In the wake of the partial western boycott of the 1980 Games in Moscow, several national committees *have backed* the proposal in an effort to reduce costs and political wrangling.

The Moscow boycott—although *many teams and athletes took part* in defiance of their government's recommendation—also revived *controversy over the use of flags* and anthems.

Mr Samaranch asked IOC members for their opinions and the IOC said proposals for change included a ban on all national symbols, the use of national Olympic committee flags with national anthems, or the use of *both the Olympic flag and hymn.*

But "a significant percentage indicated their opposition to any changes in the present protocol ceremonies", the IOC reported in a *summary* of replies.

Seoul, Feb 19.—A four-man South Korean delegation will go to Lausanne next week to submit formally to the *IOC Seoul's* candidature to host the 24th summer Olympic Games in 1988, an authoritative source said here today.

The application deadline is February 27. Athens, Melbourne and Nagoya are also said to want to host the 1988 games. The matter is expected to be decided in Baden-Baden.

Seoul also wants to host the 10th Asian Games in 1986 and *since* Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, has also applied, a delegation from the Asian Games Federation is scheduled to visit both cities next month for on-the-spot surveys.—Agencies.

French youths

Paris, Feb 19.—The French selectors announced the under-18 rugby union team to play Wales on March 14 at Neath and *England* on March 22 at Vierzon in France.

TEAM: J.-J. Sauvelerre; J.-J. Nascimbene, M. Vollo, A. Macchion, M. Dutolle; L. Macel, P. Roux; E. Champ, P. Duchen, A. Lescure, P. Bolin, J. Geiv, T. Segurel, M. Bruel, P. Sella.—Agence France-Presse.

Carpet General out

Carpet General will not run in the Lincoln Handicap at Doncaster on March 28. Mark Prescott, the trainer, said last night: "I will not have Carpet General prepared in time for the Lincoln."

Racing

Hern aims Henbit at Jockey Club Stakes

By Michael Seely

The north wind cut like a knife across the Berkshire Downs above West Ilsley yesterday morning. It was hard not to shiver in the cold watching two specks in the distance moving up the all-weather gallop towards Dick Hern, who was waiting on his hack on the crest of the hill. However, it was a heart-warming sight as Henbit, the hero of the 1980 Derby, cantered by a few seconds later. "Not much wrong with that action", Major Hern commented.

The possibility of Henbit being seen in action again seemed remote at Epsom last June when he cracked his off-fore cannon bone during the moment of *his* greatest triumph. However, the American-bred colt is now as sound as a bell, and all being well will have his first race of 1981 in the Jockey Club Stakes during the 2,000 Guineas meeting at Newmarket.

Hern holds a strong hand in his older horses after his record-breaking year in 1980. Both Henbit and Prince Bee have the King George VI and Queen Eliza*beth Diamond Stakes and the Prix* de l'Arc de Triomphe as their principal targets. The tough Prince Bee never stopped improving last season and will have Epsom's Coronation Cup as an early objective.

The only defeat of that wiry little filly, Shoot A Line, in six high-class races last season occurred in the Oaks where she was unsuited to the firm ground and could only finish fifth behind her stable companion, Bireme. Ideally, Hern would have liked to tackle the Yorkshire Cup with Shoot A Line. "However, the penalties for group one winners are pretty hefty in this race", he said. "The John Porter Stakes at Newbury and the Ormonde Stakes at Chester are more likely targets".

The opening of the flat racing season is still over a month away, but the arrival of a copy of Timeform's Racehorses of 1980 not only quickened the pulse in anticipation of the excitements ahead but also recalled the highlights of last year.

What dramas we had. Apart from Henbit breaking down in the Derby there was Nureyev's disqualification in the 2,000 Guineas and the magnificent *season enjoyed by Ela-Mana-Mou* and his defeat of Mrs Penny in the Diamond Stakes. Then there was Le Moss becoming the first horse to win the Ascot Gold Cup and the Goodwood and Doncaster Cups in successive years. And then, throughout the late summer and autumn, there was the battle for supremacy among the milers which culminated in Known Fact's defeat of Kris in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot.

Timeform's racehorse of the year—rated at 137—was the European champion sprinter, Moorestyle. The next highest rated were Known Fact and Le *Moss*, at 135. The *rising genera*tion of three-year-olds will be seriously tested, with both Known Fact and Moorestyle, as well as *Hern's talented trio, remaining* in training as four-year-olds.

On last season's two-year-olds Timeform are in agreement with the international *classification* in rating Storm Bird and To-Agori-Mou head and shoulders above their contemporaries. In fact, they go further; in assessing Storm Bird at 134 they are rating him higher than three other sons of Northern Dancer—Nijinsky, The Minstrel and Try My Best—at a similar stage of their careers. They also consider that Storm Bird is almost certain to stay the distance of the Derby and that he might face a stiffer task against To-Agori-Mou in the 2,000 Guineas.

Racing is quiet this afternoon before the excitement of tomorrow's programmes. The £10,000 Trout Chase at *Newcastle* is the most valuable race of the day and despite the expected absence of Night Nurse from this limited handicap Peter Easterby could still hold the key with Prominent King and Father Delaney. Prominent King, a useful stayer, has been gradually finding his form and his latest effort when third to The Engineer at Stockton suggests that he should be too good for Father Delaney and the Vintner.

The four-year-olds should be suited by the conditions of the Wild Duck Novices' Hurdle. Caroline Lamb, conqueror *of the talented Home Ground at* Stockton, may prove too good for Carouser. Another Stockton winner, Justafancy, should find Onapromise *his* chief rival in the Oak Handicap Hurdle at Fakenham.

STATE OF GOING (official): Newcastle: Soft. Fakenham: Good to soft. Tomorrow: Lingfield Park: Soft. Chepstow: Soft. Nottingham: Good.

Southwell results

1.0 (1.2) REINDEER CHASE (Div I: Novice hunters: £448: 3m 110 yds)
COMPTON LAD, gr or ro g, by *Precipice Wood—Snowdra Queen* (R. McAlpine), 8-12-0 .... Mr T. G. Dun (6-5 jt fav) 1
Jimmyfisher .. Mr R. Mann (8-1) 2
Reformina Mr M. Thompson (50-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 18p; places, 11p, 10p, £3.79; Dual F: 57p. CSF: £1.28. M. Dickinson, Harewood. 20l, distance. Towtame, 6-4 jt fav. Ammonella (50-1) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Candy Royal, Choral Prince, Galway Knight.

1.30 (1.31) BROMLEY ARMS CHASE (Handicap: £1,035: 2m 74yds)
FIGHTING COCK, ch g, by Aggressor—Rhode Island (G. Ramply), 9-10-5, bl .... S. McNeil (12-1) 1
G. McCourt (13-8 fav) 2
Marshal Night
Linario .... Mr A. J. Sharpe (5-1) 3
TOTE: Win, £1.06; places, 37p, 24p, 12p; Dual F: £5.71. CSF: £3.23. D. Ringer, Newmarket. 8l, 8l. Scottish Sovereign (15-2), 4th. 12 ran.

2.0 (2.1) CROWN HURDLE (Selling: £624: 2m)
MY REPPIN, ch h by Jimmy Reppin —Knockashee (Miss C. Smith), 5-10-12 .... C. Grant (11-2) 1
Rachel Street .. J. A. Harris (7-1) 2
Bold Treaty .... F. Morris (25-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 42p; places, 10p, 31p, £1.09; Dual F: £1.51. CSF: £4.68. A. Smith, Beverley. 4l, 1l. Lucky Apple, 3-1 fav. Stansted (15-2), 4th. 18 ran. Winner bought in for 850 gns.

2.30 (2.33) STAR AND GARTER CHASE (Handicap: £113: 3m 110 yds)
MASTER BRUTUS, br g by Marcus *Brutus—Woodland Maiden* (G. *Mason*) 9-11-2 R. Earnshaw (7-4) fav 1
Turk .... A. Coogan (15-2) 2
Son And Heir .. P. Warner (6-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 35; places, 10p, 22p, 33p; Dual F: 64p. CSF: £1.55. Miss C. Mason, Malton. 3l, 4l. Three Brethren (50-1), 4th. 8 ran.

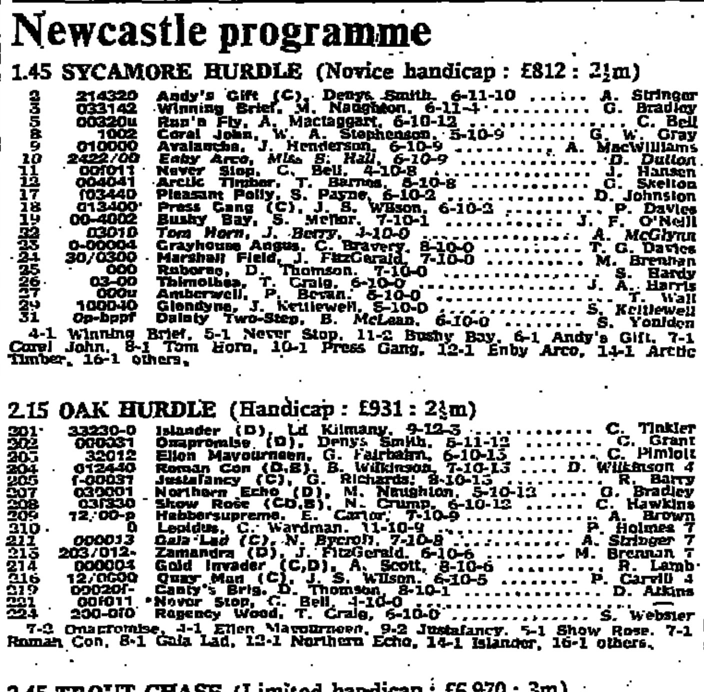
3.0 (3.1) TOTE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,268: 2m)
CATHMARIA, ch m, by Great Heron —Macaw (J. Mewies) 7-10-0 .... C. Pimlott (15-8 fav) 1
Tidy Work .... G. W. Gray (7-1) 2
Brave Fellow P. A. Charlton (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 31p; places, 13p, 10p, 37p, 21p; Dual F £1.02. CSF: £1.93. M. Dickinson, Harewood. ½l, 7l. Peacemaker (7-1), 4th. 16 ran. NR: *Sandra Bella.*

3.30 (3.32) REINDEER CHASE (Div II: Novice hunters: £448: 3m 110 yds)
RED GEM, ch g, by Some Hand—Czar's Diamond (Ld Leigh) 5-10-13 Mr A. Walters (16-1) 1
Midnight Panic Mr J. Fanshawe (7-1) 2
Prince Keel .. Mr J. Wade (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 95p; places, 29p, 13p, 17p; Dual F: £1.82. CSF: £12.16. Ld Leigh, Kenilworth. 3l, nk. Cummerbund, 5-4 fav. Clear and Clean (8-1), 4th. 9 ran. NR: Light Sprite, Oakley Pride.

4.0 ELM TREE HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £345: 2½m)
INKLING gr g by Sayfar—Inklea (Mrs E. Wilmot) 4-10-0 .... C. Pimlott (14-1) 1
Come On Taffy .... S. Smith-Eccles (4-6 fav) 2
Wedded Bliss Mr T. Walford (50-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 72p; places, 16p, 18p, 50p; Dual forecast: £1.06. CSF: £2.58. H. Wharton, Wetherby. 1½l, 8l. Wilton *Beacon* (8-1), 4th. 16 ran. NR: Carven Boy, Brave Effort.

4.30 (4.31) ELM TREE HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £345, 2½m)
LUXURIATE b g by Tom Rolfe—Dee Dee Luxe 4-10-0 .... M. Williams (6-1) 1
Daring Knight .. C. Smith (5-1) 2
Firm Foundation S. Keightley (7-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.51; places: 47p, 17p, 12p. *Dual forecast: £2.60.* CSF: £3.71. 2½l, 4l. Angostura (5-2 fav). Julard (14-1), 4th. 17 ran. NR: Allied Oldham.
PLACEPOT: £19.15.

Newcastle programme



1.45 SYCAMORE HURDLE (Novice handicap : £812 : 2½m)
2 214320 Andy's Gift (C), Denys Smith, 6-11-10 ...... A. Stringer
3 033142 Winning Brief, M. Naughton, 6-11-4 ...... G. Bradley
5 00320u Run 'n Fly, A. Mactaggart, 6-10-12 ...... C. Bell
8 1002 Coral John, W. A. Stephenson, 5-10-9 ...... G. W. Gray
9 010000 Avalanche, J. Henderson, 6-10-9 ...... A. MacWilliams
10 2422/00 *Easy Arco, Miss S. Hall, 6-10-9* ...... *D. Dutton*
11 001011 Never Stop, C. Bell, 4-10-8 ...... J. Hansen
12 004041 Arctic Timber, T. Barnes, 5-10-8 ...... C. Skelton

2.15 OAK HURDLE (Handicap : £931 : 2½m)
203 32012 Ellen Mavourneen, G. Fairbairn, 6-10-13 ...... C. Pimlott
204 012440 Roman Con (D,B), B. Wilkinson, 7-10-13 ...... *D. Wilkinson 4*
205 f-00031 Justafancy (C), G. Richards, 8-10-13 ...... R. Barry
207 039001 Northern Echo (D), M. Naughton, 5-10-12 ...... G. Bradley
208 03f330 Show Rose (CD,B), N. Crump, 6-10-12 ...... C. Hawkins
209 12/00-p Habbersupreme, E. Carter, 7-10-9 ...... A. Brown
210 0 Leoidus, C. Wardman, 11-10-9 ...... P. Holmes 7
211 *000013 Gala Lad (C), N. Bycroft, 7-10-8 ...... A. Stringer 7*
213 203/012- Zamandra (D), J. FitzGerald, 6-10-6 ...... M. Brennan 7
214 000004 Gold Invader (C,D), A. Scott, 8-10-6 ...... R. Lamb
216 12/0000 Quay Man (C), J. S. Wilson, 6-10-5 ...... P. Carvill 4
219 00020f- Canty's Brig, D. Thomson, 8-10-1 ...... D. Atkins
221 00f011 *Never Stop, C. Bell, 4-10-0 ...... —
224 200-0f0 Regency Wood, T. Craig, 6-10-0 ...... S. Webster
7-2 Onapromise, 4-1 Ellen Mavourneen, 9-2 Justafancy, 5-1 Show Rose, 7-1 Roman Con, 8-1 Gala Lad, 12-1 Northern Echo, 14-1 Islander, 16-1 others.

2.45 TROUT CHASE (Limited handicap : £6,970 : 3m)

303	2-3400a	Father Delaney (D), M. H. Easterby, 9-11-10 ... A. Brown
304	11/033	Prominent King (D,B), M. H. Easterby, 9-11-3 Mr T. Easterby
305	110313	Sparkie's Choice (C,D,B), N. Crump, 8-11-1 ... C. Hawkins
306	0210u2	The Vintner (D), M. Naughton, 10-10-13 ...... C. Grant
307	2f12p/	Hindhope, T. Craig, 11-10-7 .... R. Lamb
308	001301	The Engineer (D), *Ld Kilmany*, 9-10-7 ...... *C. Tinkler*

9-4 Prominent King, 11-4 Sparkie's Choice, 4-1 The Vintner, 5-1 The Engineer, 7-1 Father Delaney, 33-1 Hindhope.

3.15 BEECH CHASE (*Novice handicap : £1,288 : 2m 120yd*)

401	100420	Chingolo, R. Martin, 7-12-4 .... Mr R. Martin
403	0u1f31	Dusky Duke, W. A. Stephenson, 6-11-4 .... R. Lamb
404	44-2014	Foggy Buoy, P. Calver, 7-11-3 .... C. Tinkler
405	022403	Young Sagert, J. Charlton, 8-10-10 ...... Mr D. Kinsella
406	221-040	*Saint Fillans, M. Camacho*, 7-10-10 .... A. Brown
408	00/0-02f	Chartered Course (B), M. W. Easterby, 8-10-7 .... P. Tuck
409	0-0300b	Handycuff, A. Scott, 9-10-7 .... J. Mooney 4
411	000400	Legatee, M. Naughton, 6-10-0 .... C. Pimlott
412	*000230*	King Tad, N. Chamberlain, 7-10-0 .... S. Charlton

2-1 Dusky Duke, 3-1 Chartered Course, 9-2 Young Sagert, 6-1 Foggy Buoy, 7-1 *Chingolo*, 12-1 Saint Fillans, 16-1 others.

3.45 WILD DUCK HURDLE (Novices : £874 : 2m 120yd)

501	003-013	Cornering (CD), M. H. Easterby, 5-11-8 ...... Mr T. Easterby
502	*0/0p003*	*Accountess, C. Bell*, 8-11-4 .... C. Pimlott
504	0C-0pf0	Charlie's Choice, F. Watson, 8-11-4 .... Mr F. Watson
505	030/4	Cougar Prince, P. Rohan, 7-11-4 .... J. King
506		Dunaram, T. Barnes, 6-11-4 .... D. Johnston 7
510	32	Mr Shugg (B), K. Oliver, 6-11-4 .... Mr T. G. Dun
514	p00-0p	Sin No More, M. Reddan, 6-11-4 .... P. Murphy 4
517		Baker Street, P. Calver, 5-11-3 .... C. Tinkler
519	00p-00	*Billsbury, Mrs A. Cousins, 5-11-3 .... —
521	f30	Copper Tinsoll, T. Barnes, 5-11-3 .... M. Barnes
523	0	Greenhill Hall, K. Oliver, 5-11-3 .... T. V. O'Connell 4
524	000	Keep Trying, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-3 .... R. Lamb
526	0	Paul Scarlet, Mrs A. Scott, 5-11-3 .... Mr R. Shiels 7
527	000000	Private Business, W. A. Stephenson, 5-11-3 .. G. W. Gray 7
529	00000	*Silent Reactor, G. Fairbairn*, 5-11-3 ...... *N. McCormack 4*
531		Three Shiners, E. Carter, 5-11-3 .... P. A. Charlton
532	043020	Two Sovereigns, R. Martin, 5-11-3 .... Mr R. Martin
533	41	Caroline Lamb, Miss S. Hall, 4-10-8 .... D. Wilkinson 4
534	1	Carouser, C. Thornton, 4-10-8 .... R. Barry
536		Glenvara, R. Peacock, 4-10-3 .... D. Atkins

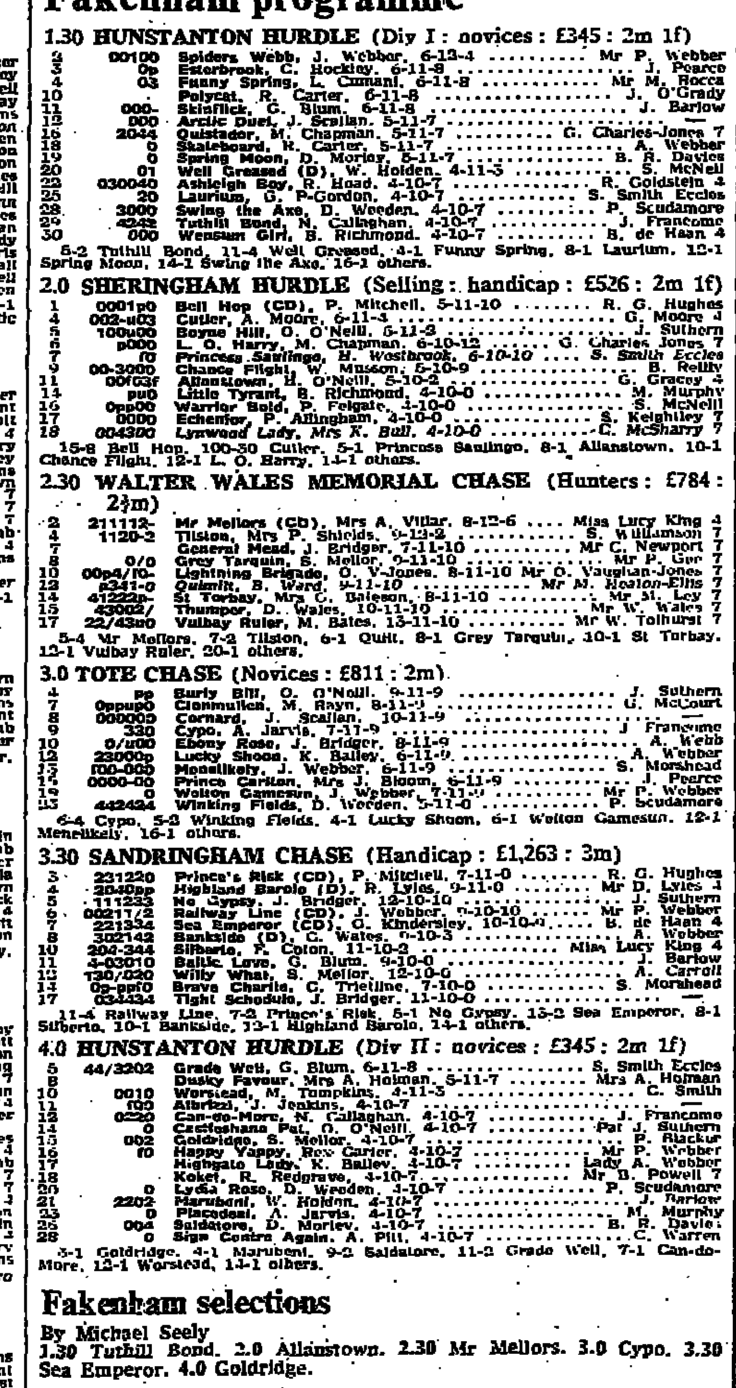
3-1 Mr Shugg, 7-2 *Caroline Lamb*, 4-1 *Carouser*, 5-1 *Cornering*, 6-1 *Two Sovereigns*, 12-1 Cougar Prince, 16-1 Copper Tinsoll, 20-1 others.

4.15 POPLAR HURDLE (4-y-o novices : £683 : 2½m)

		...... K. Williams
601	00211	Miss Couture, J. W. Watts, 11-10 .... C. Grant
603	043213	Brown's Babu, Denys Smith, 11-5 .... C. Fairhurst
604	310000	Chocolate Biscuit, T. Fairhurst, 11-5 .... J. Hansen 7
605	010022	Gay Troop (D), J. Berry, 11-5 .... A. Brown
606	2031	Kittaspec Gal, M. H. Easterby, 11-5 .... D. Atkins
607	041	*Lambrusca, C. Thornton*, 11-5 .... M. Hancock 4
612	003	Find The Sun, C. Gray, 11-0 .... R. Lamb
613	0p	Gandolf, C. Bell, 11-0 .... C. Hawkins
616	0	Turtleton, R. McDonald, 11-0 ....

5-2 Miss Couture, 7-2 Kittaspec Gal, 9-2 Lambrusca, 6-1 Brown's Babu, 8-1 Gay Troop, Find The Sun, 14-1 Chocolate Biscuit, 16-1 others.
* Doubtful runner

Fakenham programme



1.30 HUNSTANTON HURDLE (Div I : novices : £345 : 2m 1f)
2 00100 Spiders Webb, J. Webber, 6-12-4 ...... Mr P. Webber
3 0p Esterbrook, C. Hockley, 6-11-8 ...... J. Pearce
4 03 Funny Spring, L. Cumani, 6-11-8 ...... Mr M. Rocca
10 Polycat, R. Carter, 6-11-8 ...... J. O'Grady
11 000- Skinflick, G. Blum, 6-11-8 ...... J. Barlow
12 000 Arctic Duel, J. Scallan, 5-11-7 ...... —
16 2044 Quistador, M. Chapman, 5-11-7 ...... G. Charles-Jones 7
18 0 Skateboard, R. Carter, 5-11-7 ...... A. Webber

8 Dusky Favour, Mrs A. Holman, 5-11-7 ...... Mrs A. Holman
10 0010 Worstead, M. Tompkins, 4-11-5 ...... C. Smith
11 f00 Albrizzi, J. Jenkins, 4-10-7 ...... —
12 0220 Can-do-More, N. Callaghan, 4-10-7 ...... J. Francome
14 0 Castleshane Pal, O. O'Neill, 4-10-7 ...... Pat J. Suthern
15 002 Goldridge, S. Mellor, 4-10-7 ...... P. Blacker
16 f0 Happy Yappy, Rev Carter, 4-10-7 ...... Mr P. Webber
17 Highgate Lady, K. Bailey, 4-10-7 ...... Lady A. Webber
18 Koket, R. Redgrave, 4-10-7 ...... Mr B. Powell 7
20 0 Lydia Rose, D. Weeden, 4-10-7 ...... P. Scudamore
21 2202 Marubeni, W. Holden, 4-10-7 ...... J. Barlow
23 0 Placedeal, A. Jarvis, 4-10-7 ...... M. Murphy
25 004 Saldatore, D. Morley, 4-10-7 ...... B. R. Davies
28 0 Sign Centre Again, A. Pitt, 4-10-7 ...... C. Warren
3-1 Goldridge, 4-1 Marubeni, 9-2 Saldatore, 11-2 Grade Well, 7-1 Can-do-More, 12-1 Worstead, 14-1 others.

Fakenham selections

By Michael Seely
1.30 Tuthill Bond. 2.0 Allanstown. 2.30 Mr Mellors. 3.0 Cypo. 3.30 Sea Emperor. 4.0 Goldridge.

Newcastle selections

By Michael Seely
1.45 Winning Brief. 2.15 Justafancy. 2.45 Prominent King. 3.15 Chartered Course. 3.45 CAROLINE LAMB is specially recommended. 4.15 Kittaspec Gal.

Squash

Canadians may fall short of Miss Hoffmann's level

By Rex Bellamy

Tony Swift, who was formerly Britain's national coach and is now Canada's, has returned to his native island with a team of six Canadian women on a 16-day tour. They arrived on Tuesday in readiness for the most important women's event in the fixture list: the British open championship, sponsored by Pretty Polly, the hosiery manufacturers. The championship will be played at Hove from this evening until next Thursday, with a rest day on Tuesday.

One of the Canadians, Pam Davidson, who has played here before, said yesterday that the main purpose of their tour was to gain experience in preparation for the world championship series, to be played in Toronto in October. There is, in fact, an unusually interesting world championship in progress in Toronto at the moment: the first world doubles championship for men, carrying a first prize of £1,300. The first prize at Hove is £1,500.

In Canada the women play international "softball" squash as distinct from the "hardball" version more commonly associated with North America. But their present competitive level does not suggest that they will remain in the running for long at Hove, where Australian and British players dominate a 60-strong field from seven nations. For the 20th consecutive year the title should go to Australia. There is no reason to suppose that anyone has advanced fast enough to *beat last year's winner, Vicki* Hoffmann, of Adelaide.

Miss Hoffmann, a little left-hander, is a shrewd tactician and a tough competitor. She has an uncommonly good drop shot but otherwise depends on variations of pace in the context of geo*metric patterns designed with* a minimum of risk. The seedings suggest that her main challengers will be Britain's leading players, *Susan Cogswell and Angela Smith.*

Miss Cogswell, aged 29, has been runner-up three times and her chances are not improving. Miss Smith spends most of the year coaching in Manhattan, which is not the ideal preparation for competing at Hove. Indeed, some players reckon Rhonda Thorne should have been seeded third, above Miss Smith. This might have given balance to a *draw that looks a little top-heavy.*

It is 59 years, to the month, since Joyce Cave beat her sister Nancy in the first final. The championship has been contested 52 times but there have been only 14 winners. The overall standard has probably never been higher but, almost inevitably, no one is in the same class as Heather McKay, champion 16 times from 1962 to 1977.

For the record

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Atlanta Hawks 99, Indiana Pacers 96; New Jersey Nets 110, Cleveland Cavaliers 108; Philadelphia 76ers 111, Detroit Pistons 97; Kansas City Kings 113, Boston Celtics 115; New York Knicks 105, Seattle Supersonics 103; Golden State Warriors 103, Chicago Bulls 107. KORAC CUP: Semi-final round, first leg: Juventud Badalona 109, Red Star Belgrade 85; Carrera Venice 115, Dinamo Moscow 105. RONCHETTI CUP: Semi-final round: Monting Zagreb 82, Cuc Clermont-Ferrand 70.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: New York Rangers 8, Toronto Maple Leafs 3; Washington Capitals 5, Chicago Black Hawks 5; Minnesota North Stars 6, Colorado Rockies 2; Winnipeg Jets 3, Hartford Whalers 3; Edmonton Oilers 0, St Louis Blues 3; Quebec Nordiques 4, Los Angeles Kings 2; Boston Bruins 7, Vancouver Canucks 5.

Snooker

DUBLIN: Benson and Hedges Irish Masters: First round: D. Taylor (Ireland) beat J. Spencer (England), 4—2 (56—65, 57—71, 74—17, 98—12, 60—51, 74—57).

Golf

ADELAIDE: South Australian open: Second round (Australian unless stated): 140: L. Stephen 73, 67. 141: *J. Clifford* 68, 73: *R. Davis* 72, 69: S. Owen (New Zealand) 70, 71: R. Shaw 71, 70. 142: W. Dunk 71, 71. 143: S. Long (US) 71, 72. 144: K. Neagle 70, 74. 146: R. Shearer 73, 73. 150: D. Simon (US) 74, 76.

Golf

MANILA: Philippine open championship: First round: 70: D. Lind (US), J. Stelman (US), H. Sheng-San (Taiwan), I. Legazpi (Philippines). 71: L. Hsi-Chuen (Taiwan), N. Ozaki (Japan), M. Yusoff (Malaysia), R. Lavares (Philippines). 72: S. Torrance (Scotland), S. Martin, C. Rodriguez (Puerto Rico), A. Pate (US), H. Inoue (Japan), C. Tse-Tung (Taiwan).

Tennis

PALM SPRINGS (California): Tournament: second round (US unless stated): I. Lendl (Czechoslovakia) beat M. Davis, 7—6, 6—7, 6—3; J. Connors beat C. Dunk, 6—3, 6—1; H. Solomon beat R. Simpson (NZ), 6—7, 6—3, 6—0; T. Moor beat J. Higueras (Spain), 6—1, 6—1; P. Dupre (US) beat C. Roger-Vasselin (France), 6—7, 7—6, 6—4; P. Dent (Australia) beat R. Van't Hof, 6—3, 6—1; P. Kronk (Australia) beat B. Walts, 6—1, 6—4; T. Smid (Czechoslovakia) beat F. Buehning, 7—6, 7—6; E. Dibbs beat R. Frawley (Australia), 6—1, 6—4; T. Wallke beat J. Kriek (SA), 7—5, 6—1; B. Tanner beat B. Mitton (SA), 6—3, 3—6, 6—3; H. Pfister beat R. Gehring (WG), 6—2, 6—2.
HOUSTON (Texas): Women's tournament: first round (US unless stated): H. Mandlikova (Czechoslovakia) beat M. L. Piatek, 7—6, 7—5, 6—2; K. Latham beat R. Blount, 6—1, 6—0; R. Bunge (WG) beat B. Stove (the Netherlands), 7—6, 6—3.

Skiing

BRIGELS: Swiss women's downhill championships (Swiss unless stated): 1, H. Wenzel (Liechenstein) 1:56.21; 2, D. De Agostini 1:55.43; 3, M. Walliser 1:55.48; 4, M. Nadig 1:55.88; 5, E. Hess 1:57.91.

End of Daley saga?

The drawn out transfer of Manchester City's Steve Daley could be resolved today. Daley, for whom City paid Wolverhampton Wanderers £1.5m has been on Seattle Sounders' list for some time. City's manager, John Bond, quoted the Americans a knockdown fee of £300,000. Alan Hinton, the Seattle manager who arrived in Britain last night, will meet Mr Bond to iron out the deal.

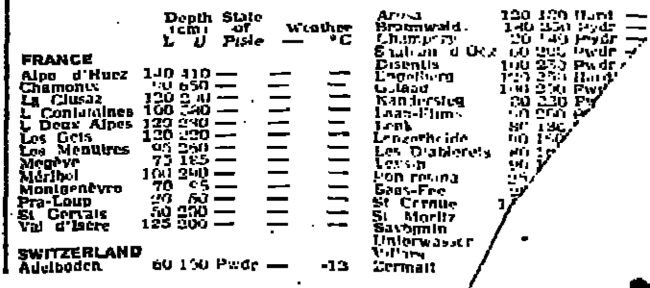
Invitation to run

Eighteen foreign runners have been invited to compete in the Tokyo Marathon on March 1, the Japan Amateur Athletic Federation have announced. They include Jerome Drayton (Canada), Ian Thompson (Britain), Kebede Balcha (Ethiopia) and Rodolfo Gomez (Mexico).—Reuter.

Latest snow reports from Europe

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Conditions Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Avoriaz	121	170	Fair	Varied	Icy	Fine	-3
A good hard piste							
Courmayeur	35	220	Fair	Varied	Closed	Fine	-3
Skiing good on upper slopes							
Grindelwald	70	180	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-4
Pistes hard and icy in parts							
Isola 2000	*15*	*45*	*Fair*	*Powder*	*Poor*	*Good*	-2
Powder on icy, worn base							
La Plagne	170	340	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-10
New snow on hard base							
Murren	140	400	Fair	Varied	Good	Fine	-7
Lower slopes icy							
St Anton	105	450	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-3
Powder in sheltered valleys							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, *L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The* following reports have bee received from oter ource:



Depth (cm) L U / State of Piste / Weather — °C
FRANCE
Alpe d'Huez 140 410 —
La Clusaz 120
L Contamines 160
L Deux Alpes 120
SWITZERLAND
Adelboden 60 150 Pwdr —
Arosa 120 120 Hard —
Braunwald 140 250 Pwdr —
Disentis 100 250 Pwdr
Gstaad 100 250 Pwdr

The savage celebration of an Italian American hero

Raging Bull (X)
Classic Haymarket and other cinemas

Battle Beyond the Stars (A)
Warner West End

Dance Craze (U)
Dominion

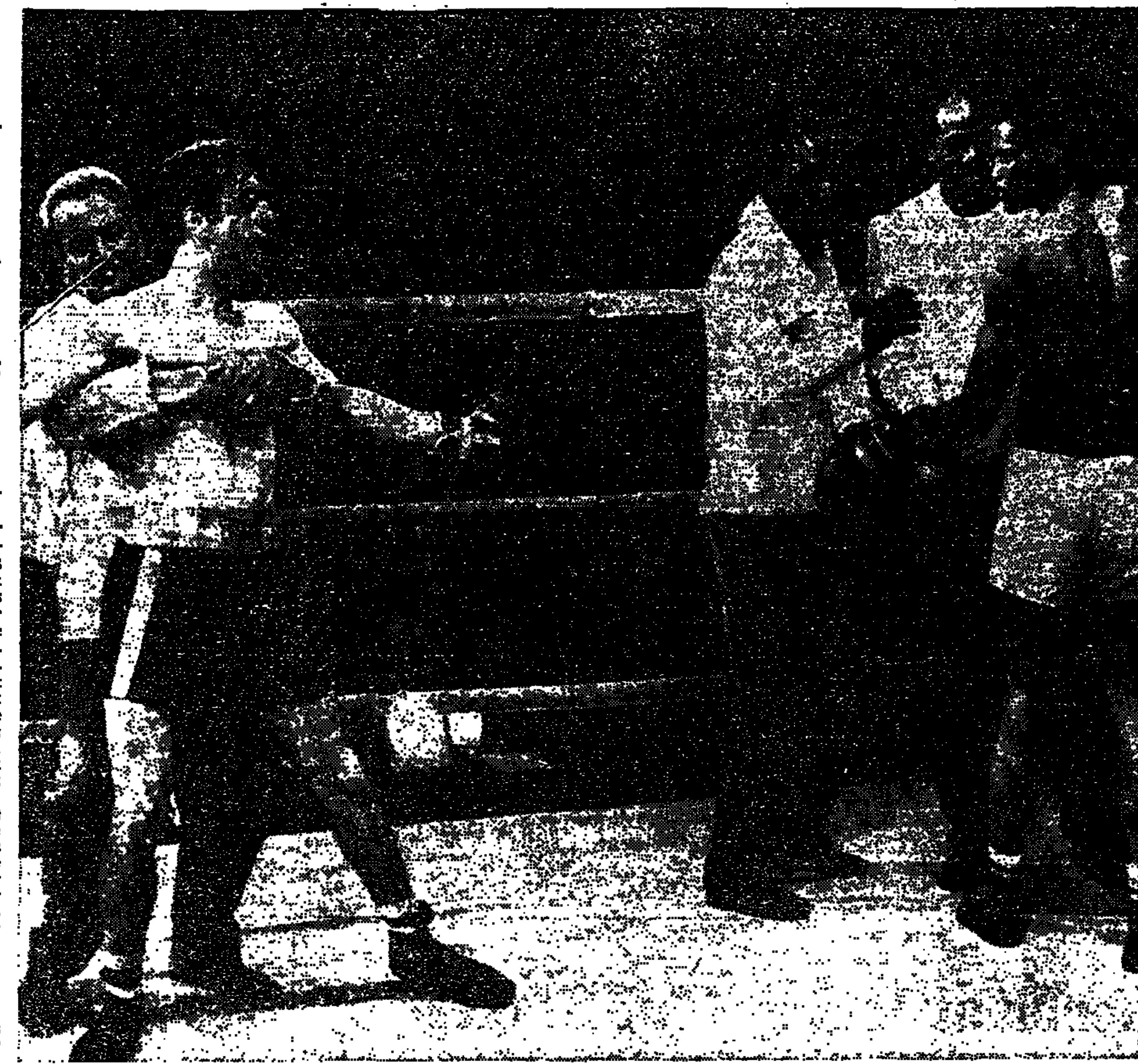
Papa les petits bateaux
Scala

There has been a lot of nonsense written about the "banning" of Martin Scorsese's *Raging Bull* from the Rank chain of cinemas. The story is not true, more a cover-up for the confusion caused when the premiere assumed by the distributors, United Artists, backfired and Scorsese and Robert De Niro arrived for an event which was not going to take place. As a result the film opens in London at a Classic cinema but will be shown throughout the rest of Britain on the Rank circuit.

What this rash of stories about censorship and the tyranny of the duopoly has done, however, is to damage the film by drawing unnecessary attention to the imaginary reason for the imaginary banning, the bad language. *Raging Bull* has now acquired a quite absurd reputation for expletives when it would have been better for a public understanding of the film if attention had been drawn to the film's integrity, trying to show better than any film since Paul Newman in *Somebody Up There Likes Me* the quality of mind of a man who volunteers to be pummelled every day.

The bad language is an essential part of *Raging Bull*. Scorsese chose the subject, the biography of Jake La Motta, the middle-weight boxer of the Forties and early Fifties, because it celebrated an Italian American hero. Scorsese was brought up in New York's Little Italy, as was Robert De Niro, and much of his best work, *Mean Streets* and *Taxi Driver*, is set in a world where Italian Americans owe joint allegiance to the Pope, their family, the Mafia and the United States.

Scorsese was keen to make *Raging Bull* as authentic as possible. The primary reason for filming in monochrome, except for some brief home movie sequences, was to recapture the atmosphere of the old fight newsreels. Robert De Niro plays La Motta from a young man through a punishing career, during which he became middle-weight champion, to obese middle-age, ending up as a grubby night club comic. De Niro was so determined to be true to La Motta, who is still alive, that he risked his health by putting on and taking off four stones in weight in eight months.



Jake La Motta (Robert De Niro) taunts Sugar Ray Robinson (Johnny Barnes) in *Raging Bull*

Great attention has been paid to detail. The fashion changes are faithful. The period sounds of radio music and fight commentators are authentic. The actors chosen to play Sugar Ray Robinson, Tony Janiro and the other fighters in La Motta's career look right. And the language between the main characters is suitably riddled with expletives, mostly the abuse aimed at the sanctity of motherhood which obsesses Italian Catholics. The expletives become as commonplace as punctuation, leaving only the most inventive to penetrate the imagination.

The script is by Mardik Martin and Paul Schrader, who has regularly collaborated with Scorsese, based upon La Motta's ghosted autobiography, but it is evident that for a good part of the film the script was used as no more than a starting point for extemporizing. Scorsese is an admirer of the methods of John Cassavetes which throw actors back upon their own understanding of character.

It is not surprising that De Niro is tipped for an Oscar for his playing of La Motta. He orushed away the dangers to his heart and liver which the force-feeding to gain weight entailed with the remark "Boxers do it all the time", and he appears to have similarly devoted himself to the mental turmoil which governed La Motta's life

Without labouring the point, De Niro brings out the desire for self-destruction which pushed La Motta through his boxing career. He invited punishment, coaxing his brother to punch him straight in the face without gloves, tormenting himself with the prospect of his wife's unfaithfulness, attracting the most horrible and unnecessary wounds to his face when losing the title to Sugar Ray Robinson and pounding his head and bare knuckles against the walls of his cell in masochistic defiance against his unjust imprisonment on a vice charge in later life.

Scorsese constructs the claustrophobia of Italian life so that we can understand as insiders the pressures to conform. Men kiss and embrace; wives look after the children and keep their views to themselves; the family remains loyal whatever; the priest goes everywhere, including nightclubs; and when the local Mafia boss says pull a fight, you pull a fight. La Motta tried to succeed on his own, without the help of the Italian network, but in striking out for himself he was to lose his fights, his health, through compulsive eating, his brother and, after years of domestic violence, his wife and children.

Everything contributes to the success of De Niro's central performance, the slyly seductive playing of Cathy Moriarty as his wife and Joe Pesci, subsidiary and supportive as brother Joey. But contributing most of all is Scorsese's direction, emphasizing La Motta's mental agony by the music of Pietro Mascagni, silence and slow motion. And, above all, by recreating the bestiality of the ring in a succession of exaggerated fight scenes. *Raging Bull* is a *bloody, swollen, sweaty tribute* to those who are crazy enough to box.

Scorsese, like many of the New Hollywood directors, was given his first crack at commercial film-making by Roger Corman, the director turned producer. Corman's *Battle Beyond the Stars*, directed by Jimmy T. Murakami, is a belated attempt to jump on the *Star Wars* trend. Everything from the type-face in the credits and the rousingly orchestrated martial music confirms the Corman method, cashing in on the success of somebody else's risk.

A low budget should improve pulp science fiction, as the original *Flash Gordon* serials proved, but this film has none of that lightness and absurdity which comes from making do. It rests heavily on special effects which look all too cardboard and the plot is a muddle with none of the irony which can lift even the most crummy Corman films into sublime knockabout escapism.

It was a good idea of Joe Massot, the director of *Dance Craze*, to set up his parade of two-tone bands as if it were a creaking *Look at Life* film about jiving, but the device quickly gets in the way of the music. At one stage the raucous thunder of the West Indian beat which drives bands like Bad Manners, Madness, The Bodysnatchers and The Selecter was halted entirely by wonderfully dated Pathe Newsreels. As amusing as it was to hear Lady Lewisham's frightfully understanding and concerned plea for tolerance towards Fifties teenagers, the apposite parallels between music and dancing then and now only come as a dampening intrusion upon the excitement.

The Scala is showing a short season of films by Nelly Kaplan, whose work is little known in Britain and less praised. She was inspired by Abel Gance to make films and worked closely with him for ten years before associating with surrealists. Her work has often been compared to that of Luis Buñuel. Odd, then, that the film chosen to convince the press of her genius was *Papa les petits bateaux*, a comic strip of no obvious merit made in 1971 in which Sheila White and Michel Bouquet trip through an empty kidnapping story.

Last week I mistakenly called Michael Powell's film about a reprieve from purgatory, *A Matter of Life and Death*, by the title of Richard Fleischer's war picture *Between Heaven and Hell*. Also, Warren Beatty's *Heaven Can Wait* owes as much to Alexander Hall's *Here Comes Mr Jordan* as it does to Ernst Lubitsch's *Heaven Can Wait*, which borrowed the title of the play upon which Hall and Beatty's films were made but reversed the plot.

Nicholas Wapshott

Books

Back to square one

In all the *lamentation* over the end of general publishing by Cassell, little attention has been given to the man who gave the firm its foundation and name, John Cassell.

Cassell, famous in his day as an expounder of self-help to the working man, was born in the squalor of one of Manchester's worst slums in 1817. His father was landlord of the Ring o'Bells, a stone's throw from what is now Manchester Cathedral. His father died when he was but a boy and he was taken out of school and put into the factory. He eventually found an apprenticeship *in joinery*.

The great point of his life came in 1835 when he took the Teetotal Pledge in Manchester's town hall. He totally allied himself with the radical new movement, which forbade not only spirits but beer as well, and he became one of its founders.

The young man was soon speaking in and round Manchester to working-men. Known as the "Manchester Carpenter" he would mount the platform, complete with his fustian jacket, paper hat and apron tied round his waist. He began to supplement his meagre education and to seek new horizons. He was, *a friend* said, "young, bony, big and exceedingly rough and uncultivated".

In 1836, he set off for London on foot and carried a bag of tools with him as well as a bell to gather crowds for a Teetotal lecture. Arriving in London with three-halfpence in his pocket, he sought out the small Teetotal societies, and soon found a position as paid lecturer. His rough exterior (he did not know how to use a handkerchief), eager spirits, and Lancashire patois made him popular. For six years he tramped the roads of England with his watchman's rattle and Teetotal tracts.

While *speaking in Norfolk* he met and married Mary Abbot, and she brought with her enough money for him to give up lecturing and settle in the new suburb of St John's Woods. He set himself up as a tea and coffee merchant in the City and his business succeeded, largely because of his established name in Teetotal and Nonconformist circles; throughout his life he was a Congregationalist.

But his first loyalty remained, as it would throughout his short life, the elevation by self-help of the English working man. The drunkenness of the alleys of Manchester had left an indelible imprint on him. He started a monthly Teetotal paper which was neither a great success nor very good. He soon became involved in radical politics and stood on the fringes of Chartism. In 1848 he launched his first radical paper, a weekly named *The Standard of Freedom*.

He quickly got caught up in various radical causes: the abolition of the "Taxes on Knowledge", Hungarian patriots, and the movement for working class enfranchisement. He soon became friends with Richard Cobden. In 1850 he launched his first attempt at working-class publishing with a weekly *news-magazine, The Working Man's Friend*, a rather trenchant class publication.

These early ventures were not successful; but out of the French lessons in the *Working Man's Friend* grew his most important and successful publication, *The Popular Educator*. This penny weekly had a variety of courses in each week, ranging from English grammar to Latin, from Hebrew to mechanics and book-keeping. He helped establish home extension courses and by 1887 the series had sold one million copies.

But he always wanted to edit a newspaper; Cobden had always urged him on this course. In 1853 he launched *Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper*, which ran well into this century. His earlier radicalism mellowed into a somewhat chauvinistic Palmerstonian liberalism. There were numerous "spin-offs" from his periodicals that he published as books, and he began publishing penny weekly part issues of novels.

However he had borrowed heavily, and in 1854 he crashed badly, and was only saved from bankruptcy by the intervention of two printers named Petter and Galpin. Within a few years the new firm of Cassell, Petter & Galpin had emerged: they provided the money and Cassell, the ideas, name, and contacts. There was a serialized and heavily illustrated History of England and an *Illustrated Family Bible*: the two were soon selling over 400,000 copies a week.

For this, and for other—and more expensive—illustrated books the firm turned to Cassell's long established contacts in France. He would go to Paris and there buy the metal "electros" or copies of finished wood-cuts, which were extremely expensive. His contacts included Gustave Doré whom the new firm introduced to England. Months before his death the firm startled the publishing world with the first English edition of Napoleon III's *Life of Caesar*.

In his last years, as the publications turned more towards higher quality books and original publications, Cassell despite his declining health turned to new fields. While touring America to promote "my Bible" he came across *the new discovery*, oil. He bought out a French process for refining paraffin but it failed miserably and when he died in 1865, aged only 48, he was again near bankruptcy. His partners would die millionaires and the firm would become one of the most successful in publishing history.

Cassell once told his close friend, Lord Broughan, that he sought "to spend and be spent" in the service of working-class improvement and this is what happened. He was tall, a large man with a ready laugh and a constant cigar. He was kind, generous and honourable. He bounded rather than walked through life. It is ironic that Cassell was one of the first English publishers to exploit the American market. It is now the American holding company that has wound up general publishing by Cassell to limit the firm to educational works. By so doing they are only bringing the firm back full circle to the goals set in 1852.

James Munson

BBCSO/Gielen
Festival Hall/Radio 3

William Mann

It was enterprising of the Royal Philharmonic Society to revive Zemlinsky's Lyric Symphony on Wednesday in a performance by Michael Gielen and the BBC Symphony Orchestra. The composer's name often crops up in writings about the Vienna of Mahler and Schoenberg, though his works are performed very seldom nowadays.

Alexander von Zemlinsky was a quite successful opera conductor and composer; Mahler put on one of his operas in Vienna, Schoenberg married his sister and thought the world of him. Zemlinsky composed the Lyric Symphony in 1923, 15 years after Mahler's *Das Lied von der Erde* which it markedly resembles. Both are song-symphonies, setting oriental poetry in German translations. Mahler's has six movements to Zemlinsky's seven, alto and tenor soloists to his soprano and baritone, poems from China to his by the Indian, Tagore. Both are amorous and *melancholy in* mood, and both base their symphonic arguments on a three-note motto figure; fortunately not the same one.

By 1923 Schoenberg had embraced atonality and was well on the way to 12-note technique. The music of Zemlinsky's Lyric Symphony floats sumptuously forward as if the First World War had never happened. He had a tendency, his biographer admits, to recom*pose the masterworks of his* time, and the Lyric Symphony does fall upon the ear like a second *Song of the Earth*, less taut, less muscular, not quite the same.

The sombre first movement is not unlike the Pfitzner of *Palestrina*. Atmosphere was Zemlinsky's strong suit; each of the seven movements has its own, precisely circumscribed mood. There is a gorgeous sensuousness in the *third song*, with *sumptuous* wind and brass writing that looks back to Schoenberg's *Gurrelieder*; but the sixth movement deals almost entirely in two lines, the high soprano part and an accompanying strand; more like Mahler, but with a different accent.

Such music requires lovely solo voices; we had them in Elisabeth Söderström, who soared rapturously, and Thomas Allen with burnished chestnut *tone*. Both were apt to be swamped by the flood of full orchestral sound; Mr Gielen had no time for shorn lambs in his fervent championship of this music.

The Show He Never Gave
Everyman, Liverpool

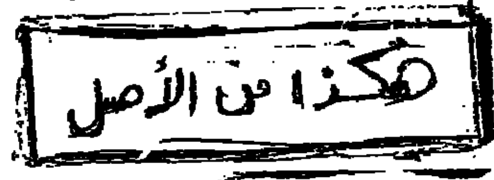
Ned Chaillet

Libel laws and living relatives contrive to cast a rosy hue over *the life of the country* and western star Hank Williams, but the truth survives in his frequently painful songs and the Canadian playwright Maynerd Collins knows how to use them to tell the man's story. The lyrics reveal the bitter story of his first faithless marriage and the playwright imagines a last boozy concert on the night before Williams's death on New Year's Day 1953. Although Williams was still popular he was struggling with drugs and drink to hold on to his talent.

Country music has a passionate following in Britain and Ken Campbell, the director of the Liverpool Everyman wants that sort of audience for the theatre. In his first season he has scooped in fans of science fiction, B movies and disco dances. The wildly responsive country fans could well be the most appreciative and they would certainly have been the most critical if *The Show He Never Gave* was not such a dynamic mix of music, truth and myth.

Those resistant to the foot-stomping insistency of country rhythms might find the show heavy going. It is much more a concert than a play and Mr Campbell and Terry Canning have directed it with all musi*cal stops pulled, with the back*ing of a solid band, where the steel guitar of Ronnie Bennett and the fiddle of Eithne Hannigan dominate. The songs shift through moods that range through the exuberance of the cajun-styled "Jambalaya" to the bitterness of "Your Chearin' Heart". It is exultant and moving theatre because it tells the story using the full potency of popular music.

When Mr Collins's own writing uneasily tries to evoke evangelistic fervour it momentarily falters. The real insights are in the music and in the remarkable performance by Carl Chase as Williams. For two hours he sustains a wily *impersonation that would do* credit to a seasoned professional. A few weeks ago Mr Chase was a Liverpool taxi-driver; he is likely to be a fully employed performer from now on.



Waiting for Godot
Old Vic

Irving Wardle

"All mankind is us, whether we like it or not" exclaims one of Beckett's tramps, usually melting the heart of the spectator with a car outside and a home to go to. Too much has been made of Beckett's universality, and the time is ripe for a reminder that *Godot*—whatever its other meanings—is specifically about the destitute of the earth.

Such is the aim of Donald Howarth's multiracial production, imported from Cape Town and reuniting London audiences with the much loved acting partnership of John Kani and Winston Ntshona, last seen six years ago in *Sizwe Bansi is Dead*. On Mr Howarth's stage Beckett's country road becomes a sun-cracked rock somewhere out in the veldt; Pozzo (Bill Flynn) an Afrikaner in check shirt and riding breeches, and Lucky (*Peter Piccolo*) a shanty town piece of white trash.

Long before these characters appear the play has found its new focus. Almost in his first line, Vladimir (Kani) declares: "I resumed the struggle"; and for once you know which struggle he is talking about. And when Ntshona's Estragon announces that he has been beaten up by the same lot as usual, he has no need to explain who they are.

So it goes on, speech after speech finding a precise application to South Africa's blacks, and achieving an ironic zenith in the scene where Pozzo returns as a blind man appealing for help. "Are you friends?" he asks; to which Ntshona replies with a long, gurgling laugh that goes beyond words. Dialogue apart, the general metaphor of endlessly waiting for a simple act of justice relates directly to the new environment.

What I have described so far are mainly the automatic effects of setting the play in South Africa: even a pair of blacked-up whites in the lead would produce much the same result. The presence of Kani and Ntshona adds something else, and, while their work is as electrifying as ever, it does not always serve the play.



Photograph by Donald Cooper

John Kani (left), Peter Piccolo, Winston Ntshona

What they offer is a wonderful partnership of complementary temperaments: Kani quick-moving, sociable, always looking on the bright side, Ntshona weighty, reflective, and occasionally surfacing with flashes of moral passion. On such terms, their mutual contact never sags, but it does inhibit the variety, the comedy, and the exchanges of role between Beckett's tramps. It is true that the racial setting diminishes the comic opportunities; but even so, the performance could do with more invention and less monotonous bickering.

Antiphonal poetry (such as the "like feathers/like leaves" exchange) comes over as argument; and the partners' speech rhythms continually jar against those of the text. In particular there is the habit of emphasizing penultimate words: "try as *one* may" (as distinct from two); "there's nothing *we* can do" (unlike all those other people). For those who have had enough of the play, this is an illuminating event; those who have never seen it should wait for the Royal Exchange version.

Sinfonietta/Zollman
Royal College of Music

Paul Griffiths

Electronic music has not provided us with many masterpieces since Varese's *Deserts*, first performance in 1954, and the work itself suggests some reasons why. Every time I hear it I am struck more forcibly by the gulf between the electronic episodes and the orchestral music that surrounds them, the new medium seeming pathetically tame and dead in a context of such vigour, brilliance and subtlety. Three times Varese rips apart the fabric of score and performance to give us his musical ideas in the direct form of sounds on tape, and on each occasion the effect is not of an adventure into new worlds but a retreat into inarticulacy.

No doubt this is partly because the tape is steadily deteriorating while standards of orchestral expertise constantly improve: the London Sinfonietta, playing the work at the start of Wednesday's BBC College Concert under Ronald *Zollman, gave an exceptionally* thrilling account of it. But I feel also that Varese realized he had not found the promised land when he acquired a tape recorder, that his dreams were still a long way from fulfilment. And they still are.

To follow the clamour of *Deserts* is a tall order but happily the programme found a very beautiful contrast in Anthony Gilbert's *Towards Asavari* for small orchestra, with a solo piano part scintillatingly played by Peter Lawson. The stated goal of the piece is raga heard finally on muted trumpet under a gauze of excited high treble activity, and more generally the music approaches Indian art in its sensuality, its ornateness and its easy swing between meditation and extremely energetic movement.

Kurtag's *Messages of the Late Miss R. V. Troussova*, for all the vividness of its imagery and the superb artistry of the soprano soloist Adrienne Csengery, was too pat for a sequence of telegrams from some female hell.

Herodiade
Collegiate

Hilary Finch

Massenet's version of the Salome story has always had *something of a struggle to woo* its public. In choosing to mark the centenary of the premiere of *Herodiade* by giving its first London performance since 1904, University College Opera have taken on a work that had to be partly rewritten for Paris only three years after its premiere and then both renamed and adapted to suit British tastes.

But for this *Herodiade* Christopher Fifield's flexibly controlled, spacious yet always energizing musical direction and some responsive and imaginative orchestral playing made the most of a good deal of strong, firmly crafted writing: only Massenet's sixth out of 27 operas, but with the seeds of *Werther* and *Manon* already noticeably germinating.

And if wooing was still really necessary, Christopher Renshaw's strong and persuasive production did the trick. Powerfully stylized yet never self-consciously sterile use of space, movement and lighting, within an enclosed narrowing black-tiled perspective, served always to channel the music's expressive power and meticulously matched its pace.

The specific dance scenes apart, it was as if the production were choreographed throughout, from the subtle interweaving crowd movements to the sharply characterized entries of each principal. Robin Don's design and Trevor Collins's costumes ingeniously and not inappropriately evoked a Pre-Raphaelite Orient.

The student chorus, somewhat weakened by flaccid French, were joined by a particularly strong cast of young professional principals. Gillian Sullivan's Salome, visually and vocally lithe and translucent, a girlish vulnerability blossoming *into a strong and often* thrilling top register, was powerfully complemented by Phyllis Cannan's strongly projected dramatic Herodiade.

Christopher Blades as Herod tellingly fused emotional insecurity with vocal assurance in his characterful baritone, Philip Doghan's John the Baptist was a steady, if at times unpenetrating lyric tenor and Roger Bryson was a musically and dramatically memorable Phanuel. The boys of Trinity School, Croydon, and the temple cantor were no less praiseworthy. There will be further performances tonight and on Saturday.

Giselle
Covent Garden

John Percival

The Royal Ballet has been unlucky this season in the number *of leading dancers* absent through injury, so there was a double pleasure at Covent Garden on Wednesday in seeing Galina Samsova, recovered from her foot operation, dancing in Norman Morrice's production of *Giselle* for the first time, and David Wall returning from a long absence to partner her.

They make a good pair and, with Stephen Jefferies complementing them as Hilarion, the dramatic heart of the ballet was beating strongly. Samsova and Wall both looked to be easing themselves back gently; there was more finesse than fireworks in this performance, but *Giselle* is a work that responds to such treatment. Many details sprang to life as if newly polished: the *hint of a giddy spell in Giselle's* dancing early in Act I, for instance, or the way she was already pulling away by the time Bathilde noticed Giselle admiring the richness of her clothes.

Karen Paisey's dancing in the Ashton solo has an exuberance and musical excitement that need only a little more control for real distinction; surely she must be high on the list to dance Lise soon? Apart from her, the solo roles did not live up to the excellence of the principals or the good dancing of the *corps de ballet*. The production looks better with a real ballerina in the title part, but still needs much work before it can match the old staging by Ashton and Karsavina.

Readers who feel, as I do, that it would be better for audiences and dancers to give another ballet with *Giselle*, and those who hold the contrary view, may like to know that the Royal Ballet has been debating the arguments and has not yet *decided. Reasoned letters to the* director, Norman Morrice, would be timely.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Linwood: the muddled optimism that turned a 'real winner' into a lame duck

Peter Hill on the Scottish project that was doomed from the start

It seemed an appropriate pun at the time. Many people, said the Duke of Edinburgh when he formally opened the Rootes plant at Linwood in May 1963, were grateful to the motor industry for deciding "to put down Rootes in Scotland".

The £23.5m showpiece plant designed to produce 150,000 vehicles and provide employment for 5,500 workers was the first motor car factory to be built in Scotland for more than 30 years. Its construction represented the fulfulment of the cherished aspiration of economists, industrialists and trades unionists north of the border. As he surveyed the 278 acres which the Linwood site occupied Mr Geoffrey Rootes, then chairman of the motor group's Scottish operations, declared the company's confidence that in Linwood it had a "real winner".

Now, nearly 20 years on and millions of pounds of taxpayers' money and countless days lost through industrial action, Peugeot-Citroen, the successor to the Linwood estate is planning to tear up its Scottish roots. The not unexpected decision by the French company to run down its Scottish operations is its response to mounting losses and falling sales of its Talbot marques produced at Linwood.

Since the decision was announced last week, the air around Linwood has become full of bitterness, justifiable anger, and much indignant rhetoric. There is talk of Upper Clyde Shipbuilders-style "work-ins" and action to prevent Peugeot removing items of equipment. Later today the Opposition leader, Mr Michael Foot will add his rhetoric to the row. Tomorrow he will join Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn at the head of the march through the streets in Glasgow in protest at the growing tide of Scottish unemployed.

Many of the Linwood workers who, over the next few months, will make the *discomfiting transfer from the plant* to the dole queues see the demise of their work-place and the loss of their jobs as a direct result of the monetarist economic policies deployed by Mrs Thatcher and her Government. But the seeds of Linwood's destruction were sown almost a quarter of a century ago.

Seeds sown, not by a socialist Government anxious to secure employment and derive political capital largely at the taxpayer's expense, but by an earlier Conservative government. A government, which like so many others which have followed, was concerned with attempting to provide remedies for the decline of traditional industries in the Scottish industrial heartland through intervention and financial stimulation.

It was a classic example of a Government's regional heart overruling the commercial heads, not only of ministers in the Macmillan Cabinet, but also *the better judgments* of the Rootes company and Scottish steel barons.

From their very conception the fortunes (or more accurately lack of them) of the strip mill at Ravenscraig and the Linwood motor plant have been inextricably linked. As the economy has ebbed and flowed over the years, the two plants have acted as barometers of the state of health of both the steel industry and the motor industry. Now, once more, they are at the focus of *political and economic* debate. For with Linwood doomed to die, its demands on the capacity of the Ravenscraig strip mill for motor cars will create a gap which must be plugged with orders from elsewhere if the uncertainty over Ravenscraig is to be removed.

So what was the background to the decisions which have had such unfortunate repercussions for Scotland's industrial belt? From the very outset the Government's thinking was greatly influenced by the need to stimulate investment and create employment in what were then called the "depressed areas" and which now are accorded the style of "assisted areas". Following the general election in 1951 of a Conservative Government committed to the denationalization of the steel industry there was much discussion, as now, about the size of that industry, the investments required to meet the expected demand for steel and, more pertinently, where those investments should take place.

The decision over the location of *new strip mill capacity* was described by Prof John Vaizey (now Lord Vaizey) in his book, *The History of British Steel*, as: "The most dramatic in the postwar history of the steel industry" and reflecting the failure of the Government to take steel out of politics.

Two years after the 1955 general election optimistic development plans were formulated for an expansion in steelmaking capacity to around 30 million tons by about 1962. Within the context of that plan a need was perceived for the construction of a fourth strip mill. But the major firms were not convinced that the demand *was there to be met although* Richard Thomas and Baldwins planned a major new complex at Newport (Llanwern) and Colvilles the Scottish steel company was keen to develop at Ravenscraig.

The arguments raged, compounding the already considerable political difficulties with the now defunct Iron and Steel Board attempting to hold the ring. Eventually, the board agreed that RTB should be given the go-ahead to build the *new strip mill at Newport and* the formal approval was given in January 1959. But that was only a part of the matter.

The politicians were heavily involved in the debate and the late Iain Macleod, then Minister of Labour, was keen to secure a new strip mill for Scotland which would be able to supply both a motor industry and other light industries.

Valzey records: "In this he was supported by Sir David Eccles, President of the Board of Trade and John Maclay, the Secretary of State for Scotland, and their view was supported eventually by the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the *Exchequer. By the summer of* 1958, Lord Mills, the Minister of Power, was asking Colvilles whether Scotland could sustain a strip mill, which would be Britain's fifth".

Colvilles was not convinced and suggested that in its view it would be several years before the Scottish market would be able to absorb the production of a new continuous strip mill and warned that a full strip mill would be a financial disaster. But by October 1958 *the question was not whether* there should be a fifth strip mill, but as to how it could be financed. That was determined and both strip mills were announced to the House of Commons in November 1958.

Costs rose alarmingly and by April 1962 Colvilles was almost bankrupt; further funds were *provided* by the Government and the banks to support the venture and a year later the Ministry of Power took up its security on the original funds.

It was on May 1, 1963, that Ravenscraig hot strip plant began production — "Colvilles was practically ruined because it had undertaken a project that it had thought unwise", recorded Professor Vaizey.

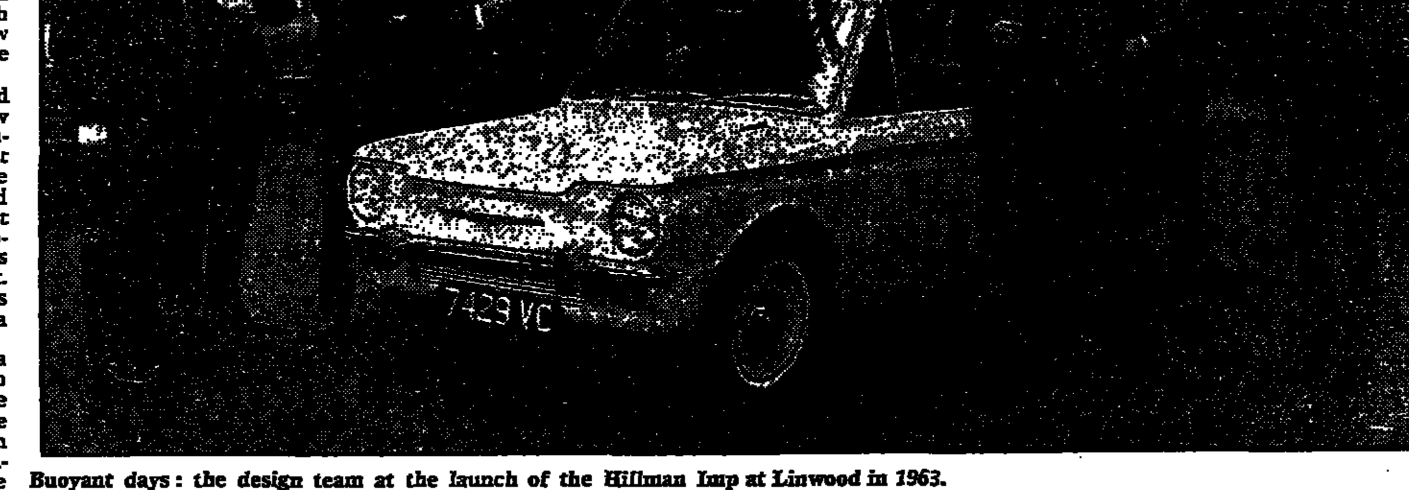
The strip mill development then had been pushed forward *by political pressure—the same* pressure which was applied to Rootes which, driven by the need to epand its market share, especially in exports, was anxious to expand its production facilities around its existing home bases in the Midlands around Ryton and Dunstable.

By refusing the company an industrial development certificate to expand in or around its native industrial heath, the Government prevailed on Rootes to invest at Linwood, 250 miles north of its nearest plant, with the investment lubricated by Government aid doled out under the provisions of the Local Employment Acts. It proved to be the watershed of Rootes's development, for not only was it against its better judgment but the small car to be produced at Linwood, the Hillman Imp, marked a new departure for the group.

At Linwood, the Rootes experience was daunting, for not only were there manpower problems, but its location and the need to organize an effective and efficient logistical system made for considerable difficulties. The rest of the history is more familiar—the takeover by Chrysler Corporation of the Rootes operation in the mid-Sixties; the Labour Government rescue of the company in 1976 at a total cost of £162.5m; and finally the acquisition by Peugeot-Citroen of the Chrysler UK interests in December 1978.

To some extent the policy worked. The village of Linwood which developed on the back of iron ore mines exploited during the Crimean War, blossomed with the development. New houses, shopping facilities and rail and road links were developed, easing the chronic housing problems and social deprivations of inner city Glasgow. But within two years of its formal opening, the site has been dubbed a running sore.

The politician's industrial dreams have proved to be a recurrent *nightmare*.



Buoyant days: the design team at the launch of the Hillman Imp at Linwood in 1963.

Cecil King: an 80th birthday tribute

Dynamic days in Fleet Street's royal family

Cecil Harmsworth King, once the ruler of the largest publishing empire in Britain, is 80 today. It may seem providential to him that he has survived into ripe old age, for he has suffered more family tragedy than most of us are called on to bear. While a boy at Winchester he lost his two brothers by enemy action. At 15, his sweetheart died of brain cancer. And in the past three years, *two of his three sons have died.*

Yet Cecil King has always believed that he himself would be vouchsafed enough time for his needs: and perhaps more. For, as he has told us, he hated himself until he reached his sixties and lacked zest for life. To protect himself from his mother, Northcliffe's powerful sister, he built himself a strong defensive system, and it was surely this which enabled him to survive his dismissal by *all his fellow directors* in 1968, when they decided that his personal excursions into politics were inimical to the International Publishing Corporation.

Most men of 67 would have been shattered by this unforeseen and sudden blow. But Cecil King stood fast and used his unwanted leisure to entertain, *to broadcast, to write* a column for *The Times*, and to publish an incomplete biography which described with devastating candour the problems of his own personality and the characters of the Harmsworths.

Later came his diaries, showing disdain for most of the eminent men he had known, and revealing his guests indiscreet conversations over the dinner table. Some of them bitterly criticized him for this breach of confidence.

All this side of Cecil King is well known; and it is a side which we, his old lieutenants, cannot forget. Yet on this day, as he and his wife, Dame Ruth Railton, celebrate his birthday in *London*, we may prefer to remember the other side of Cecil King: his charm, his generosities, his support of good causes, his often inconvenient devotion to truth.

He is a man of low spirits but he would easily respond to the kind of stimulus he could *get from Irish raconteurs*, joyous West Africans, and the blithe, accomplished men and women who created the *Mirror* each day. Perhaps he finds in Dublin, where he now lives, the moments of happiness he experienced there as a boy.

Some people will recall today how Cecil King picked them out for promotion when they were young and saw that they were educated for their tasks. Hugh Cudlipp, whom he made an editor at 24, is the best known, and the best of them.

His flair for picking executives and entrusting them with responsibility enabled him to maintain a presence and an authority over his vast domain. It contained 12 newspapers at home, 11 overseas, 75 consumer periodicals, 132 trade and technical journals, 20 printing establishments and a variety of interests in newsprint, television, book publishing and newsagents' shops.

"He was head man, no doubt about that", wrote Hugh Cudlipp. "He felt that his IPC board could rival or surpass man for man any comparable operation *in the world.*" It enabled him to find time to preside over the *Newspapers* Publishers Association and insist that the Press Council should be fortified by a lay chairman, a judge. It allowed *him to serve as a director* of the Bank of England, a member of the Coal Board and the National Parks Commission. It was recognized that Cecil King's massive ability had built the empire which put the IPC among the top 25 of *The Times* 1,000 companies list.

These days sometimes seem to mark the end of the romantic era of Fleet Street. Here was Cecil King, six feet four, scion of the royal family of Fleet Street, in Holborn Circus; and half a mile away up Gray's Inn Road was the self-made man from afar, Roy Thomson, a Pickwick in pebble lenses, but no innocent. They clashed in the bid for Odhams and King won. He kept his public pledge to succour the *Daily Herald* as faithfully as Thomson kept his to preserve *The Times*. Yet they had opposed philosophies of publishing. Roy Thomson left his editors free to serve their readers; Cecil King believed that it was his duty to lay down the strategy for his group.

At home, the Mirror group were pioneer propagandists for British membership of the EEC and over several years brought the leading editors of Europe to London to confer with British colleagues. More important, Cecil King ensured that these papers with their massive circulations and clear loud *voices continued to back Labour* in every general election. The tradition continues. No socialist party in the world has enjoyed such powerful backing, or been faced with such powerful opposition from almost all the rest of the popular press.

Lord Ardwick

Lord Ardwick (John Beavan) was political adviser to the Daily Mirror Group from 1966 to 1975.

The centre in turmoil 5: Geoffrey Smith assesses the support in the country

A reasonable lot—but will they stay the course?

The opinion polls put a Liberal-social democratic alliance ahead of the field. But even assuming that such an alliance can be formed, how solid is the support for it? How do attitudes to the social democrats vary from one part of the country to another? In an attempt to find the answers to these questions four reporters of *The Times* have each been testing opinion in a particular area. Their articles have been appearing on successive days this week.

Such inquiries cannot, of course, have the statistical validity of an opinion poll, but they can give the flavour of thinking in different parts of the country. The reports indicate a good deal of scepticism about the social democrats in the north-east and the west Midlands, but a strong measure of support in the Southampton area and towns in the home counties.

This is not surprising. The north-east is one of the traditional Labour strongholds, where many people vote for the party from a sense of instinctive loyalty. It is obvious that any new party is bound to find that kind of attachment, based on habit rather than reasoning, the most difficult to pull away.

Yet the north-east is of particular importance for the social democrats because four of the 11 sitting MPs who have joined the Council for Social Democracy represent constituencies from that area. Their personal appeal as good constituency members may see them through, but it cannot be encouraging for the new party if four of its leading members are condemned to fight in one of the least promising regions of the country.

The west Midlands are rather different. They are not a solid Labour area in the same sense: indeed, one of the features of this part of the country is the high proportion of marginal seats that it contains. But it has not been good hunting ground for the Liberals for some years. There is therefore a tendency in these parts to see politics in a rather hard-headed way as a simple choice between two potential governments.

The social democrats will have to sustain their support for quite a long time before they break down the belief in the west Midlands that this means a straight choice between Labour and the Conservatives.

The much stronger support for the social democrats in the Southampton area and the home counties is also not surprising. These are parts of the country where attachment to Labour is less fixed, where it does not grow so much out of the very nature of the local society. These are, indeed, just the kinds of places where one would exepect new trends to become apparent first. But to put it like this is to beg the critical question: are the social democrats a new fashion which will soon enough go the way of other fashions? Or do they represent a trend of the future in a deeper sense?

One cannot expect samplings of local opinion to find definitive answers to these questions, even if definitive answers are now available—which must be doubtful. But the reports do indicate the principal strength and weakness of the social democrats at this stage. Their strength is seen to be their freedom from dogma, in sharp and refreshing contrast to both Labour and the Conservatives. They are the party of reasonable people for reasonable people.

Their weakness is the other side of that coin. Not being either Labour or Conservative, what do they stand for? That is how they are seen in most people's eyes, and for the moment it may be a sufficient answer. So long as Labour seems to be drifting inexorably to the left, and so long as the Conservatives are associated with the application of an abstruse and discomforting doctrine, there will be considerable appeal in a party that suffers from neither of these failings.

But the social democrats cannot assume that Labour and the Conservatives will continue to present such inviting targets. Both parties are already reacting to the rise of social democracy. Strenuous efforts are being made within the Labour Party to reverse the judgment of Wembley. It may well be that even if successful these efforts will amount to no more than cosmetics. But skilful cosmetics are part of the art of politics, and it can be taken for granted that Labour will be at great pains before the next election to present a more pleasing and reassuring face. It will not then be so easy to advance the claims of the social democrats on the simple ground that Labour has become impossible.

For the Conservatives the task is to change their rhetoric more than their policies. They are already a fairly pragmatic Government operating behind a smokescreen of doctrine. Lord Thorneycroft and Mr Francis Pym have been doing their best to blow away this smokescreen, and their sallies are unlikely to be the last. Whatever else they do, the social democrats are likely to pull the other parties back towards the middle ground. Whether this will be a matter of substance or simply of appearance will not be of great electoral consequence.

There are likely to be only limited opportunities, therefore, for a party of protest. That has always been one of the weaknesses of the Liberals. They have suffered, no matter how unfairly, from seeming to stand for little beyond a reasonable approach to public affairs; from having nobody with any experience of office; and from standing no chance of forming a government.

The social democrats have four former Cabinet ministers, *two of whom have held very* high office. If they can form an electoral alliance with the Liberals, they will together look a much more serious proposition than the Liberals have ever managed to do by themselves.

But that still leaves the problem of policy. It is a delicate problem for them because part of their attraction is that they are not doctrinaire. They will not want to lose that advantage for the sake of sounding constructive. Yet they do need to be seen to stand for something positive as distinct from avoiding the mistakes of others, and the conclusion to be drawn from these regional reports is that the impression they create is still too nebulous.

There is, it is true, Dr David Owen's book. But for all its merits, that suffers from the same disadvantage as Liberal policy: there is so much of it that few people are quite sure what is in it. It is impossible for those setting up a new party to do everything at once, but one of their first priorities must be to issue a succinct *manifesto* of their aims and policies.

Correction

Ken Gill is General Secretary of the Technical Administrative and Supervisory Section of the AUEW, and not the whole union, as stated on Wednesday.

MOSCOW DIARY

She stands alone on the stage, dressed all in black with a long cape sweeping down from her shoulders, her face and hands exaggeratedly white in the spotlights, her eyes sparkling, holding her guitar. She suggests enormous pent-up energy, and when she sings the soul of old Russia pours out, sad, haunting, lyrical, filling the auditorium and knocking at the hearts of young Russians with an insistent appeal to their subconscious memories of their country's history and tradition, culture and suffering.

Barriers seem to break down. The humdrum routine and daily frustrations of the big city are lost in the darkness, swept away by a powerful voice singing of love and betrayal, soldiers looking at the blackbirds before they die in the fields, the hardships and happiness of village life, patience, fortitude, the frost and earth of Russia. Many modishly dressed young people, the so-called jeans generation of the cynical and materialist, weep.

Janna Bichevskaya is unique in this country. She follows in a long tradition of balladiers and songsters, but is determinedly contemporary, singing to a city audience living the realities of Soviet life today. She accompanies herself on the guitar, an instrument not traditionally associated with old Russia, but one that immediately communicates to a young audience and links her with folk singers in other countries.

Her songs are not new. When she had time in her student days she travelled round the country collecting them, and has reworked and adapted them, singing sometimes one variation and sometimes another. The themes are well known, but she brings to each song her own feelings and understanding, her own interpretation of eternal values.

Bichevskaya is something of a crusader. A warm and vivacious woman in her early thirties, she sees folk music as a way of handing on traditional wisdom and culture, opening up a person to a wider experience of life, and, in a very Russian way, drawing out his or her "soul".

"I have a great deal of rich material in my hands," she said. "For me a concert is like a seance, and I am a hypnotizer searching for the goodness that lies buried in each person which he often does not realize he possesses. People wear masks, and when I first go on stage I have to *take off these masks. At the* beginning of each performance I say to myself: 'Dear people, relax, believe me, I won't deceive you, forget your cares, help me.' I believe in telepathy, and somehow what I say to myself is transmitted to the audience."

Authenticity is important, and for this reason she refuses to be folksy, or appear on stage in traditional peasant dress. She is not a peasant, but a third generation Muscovite. She never lived in a village, but knows some of the hardships and deprivation from her own harsh childhood, as her mother died when she was only five. She knows she is coming as a city-dweller to the songs, and therefore the words and the music are important, not contrived costumes and character.

But theatre is also vital, as she is well aware. The lighting has to fit the themes. When she sings a ballad about a terrified daughter pleading with her calculating mother who is trying to sell the daughter into an unhappy marriage, she switches voices, rhythm, tone, letting a loudspeaker on one side of the stage play one part while the answer comes from the other side. And after the daughter's final cry of anguish when she discovers her mother is betraying her, the spotlight blacks out, and in the sudden darkness Janna disappears offstage.

It is effective, and is the product of five years' professional training at the Moscow Institute of Variety Art, she became interested in old songs while following the normal musical course, and began to feel their relevance. She acknowledges the encouragement of one of the Soviet Union's most famous balladiers, Bulad Okudjava, a Georgian whose bitter sweet songs have long been popular, and he urged her to concentrate on Russian folk songs because of the richness of her voice. Both Okudjava and Vladimir Vysotsky, the actor-singer who died suddenly last summer while playing the role of Hamlet at a Moscow theatre, were dedicated to their art—and consequently clashed frequently with authority—in a way that impressed her. "If you are going to be an artist, you have to be a great one", she said.

But recognition was slow to come. In 1972, a year after finishing at the institute, she won a national competition as the best variety artist. But her style and message were not readily accepted, and she had few engagements. Soviet cultural authorities view the harking back to old Russia with some suspicion, and she has still made only two records—which, of course, were sold out almost immediately.

But her singing coincides with the mood of the country nowadays. There is a marked revival of interest in the past, a renewed reverence for the old values and culture on which the Soviet Union publicly turned its back after the revolution, almost a nostalgia for a past that appears to contrast favourably with the spiritual drabness of today.

Her popularity grew. People packed her concerts, and began to circulate privately made tapes of her songs. Lyrics were sent to her by those who knew she was searching for the words to briefly heard snatches of ancient ballads.

She began to go on tour, first around the Soviet Union, then to Eastern Europe, and last year for a week to West Germany where she received enormous critical acclaim. Last year also she won first prize in a Polish contest as "Miss Variety Personality", a title she finds amusingly flattering. During the Olympic Games she sang to the world's sportsmen in the Olympic village.

She has her critics: some people dislike the adaptation of old themes to an instrument nowadays associated with pop music. "They don't understand", she replies. "Anyway, who knows how they use to sing in the seventeenth century? Even the balalaika is not a typical old Russian instrument. All the old women in the villages used to have were combs, or spoons, or their own hands which they clapped in rhythm."

She is interested that much of Russia's music is strikingly similar to early American folk music, although the songs are so closely bound up with Russia's history—a very bloody and rich history, as she remarked. She attributes the similarities partly to American borrowings, partly to the ritual structure of folk music, partly to marked religious influences: Russian church music in one case and negro spirituals in the other.

The Russian Orthodox Church, she believes, *was important* in creating a sense of theatre—icons, candles, ritual prepared people psychologically for belief. Folk music had to do the same.

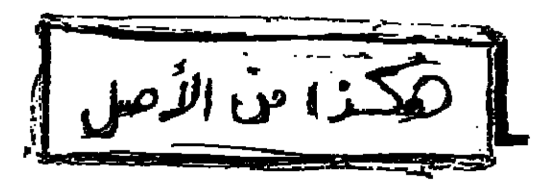
She also regards her songs as political in the broadest sense: "When I sing about the soldier who dies in the Second World War, I am thinking also about every soldier who dies today. Folk music had a common spiritual theme that transcended language and politics.

Invariably she is compared with Joan Baez. She sees the links, but says it is more important for her to be an actress as well as a singer than for Baez, whose voice she much admires. They have never met. Bichevskaya can speak English and has occasionally sung in English, but does not borrow much from other cultures in her repertoire.

Did she not tire of the songs? "Never. They are not the same—I sing differently each time. The creative process is like a train, and I feel I have already gone far beyond the stage when I recorded many of the songs a few years ago. I sing different variations nowadays.

"I feel each concert is going to be the last I give in my life. I have to summon up everything I can and give it to people at this last moment."

Michael Binyon





New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

A WARDEN FOR LAME DUCKS

It is by no means clear that the Government's concessions to the miners have averted the threat of a damaging strike in the pits. That will be determined over the next few days. But even if ministers have succeeded in their aim, their retreat is a critical event in the life of this Government. They cannot be criticized for giving way before the miners. The Government is quite simply in no position to resist their demands. A national strike would be damaging to the economy and destructive of the Government's *political* position because it would imply that this administration had fallen into exactly the same trap as Mr Heath and his colleagues. Concessions at some stage were therefore inevitable and it is much wiser to concede early rather than late.

While this is the prudent course, the implications should be recognized. The inadequacy, some would say the non-existence, of the Government's industrial strategy has been exposed. The theory was that lame ducks in the private sector would have to survive on their own or perish. In the public sector expenditure would be kept under control through the application of cash limits. Within those limits it would be for the industry concerned to decide how it could afford to pay its workers. If they insisted on extracting *more than the industry* could afford then it would have to curtail its activities, which would mean reducing the number of people it employed. The Government would stand back and allow the discipline it had imposed to have its effect.

In practice, however, it has all worked very differently. The Government has not found it possible simply to impose cash limits in the public sector and then to stand back. In the case of steel, of British Leyland, of the railways and now of the coal mines, the Government has not found it possible to say: so much money and no more. It has failed to control public expenditure as much as it had hoped and has thereby imposed extra *pressures* on private industry. There is, it is true, little prospect of a rescue operation for Linwood and a good many smaller companies have gone to the wall. But much money has been poured out for *the succour of lame ducks.*

So in fact the Government has been much less severe than it threatened, or promised, to be. That is understandable. A government cannot sit back and watch a development as damaging to the national interest as a steel or a coal strike simply take its course. But that means that the technique of automatically securing *economy* in public spending through the instrument of cash limits is unrealistic. It can be applied for part of the time, but not when the going gets rough. Where a union has industrial strength it can exercise that strength so as to force the abandonment, or at *least* the stretching, of the cash limits themselves. That is what has happened now over the coal industry.

Yet the Government has not in general modified its rhetoric in line with its actions. This means that it is getting the worst of all worlds. Those who favoured the original strategy are disappointed that it is not being applied more rigorously and effectively. Those who never liked it are led to believe that a severe policy is still being implemented with unrelenting vigour. So the consequences of an international recession are attributed to the deliberate actions of an administration that is in fact *failing to live up to its harshest threats.*

There is a good reason why a number of ministers, most notably including the Prime Minister herself, have not amended their rhetoric. Their original industrial *strategy may not be working. It* may no longer even be being tried consistently. But no other strategy has been devised to put in its place. This has two damaging effects. It inclines ministers —with some distinctive excep*tions, like Mr Pym,* and from outside the Government itself the party chairman, Lord Thorneycroft—to go on defending what they are now doing in terms of what they had earlier intended to do. Secondly, it means that their enforced pragmatism is less coherent than it might be. Ministers find that, despite their old principles, they have to intervene; but they are not intervening according to any new *principles.*

The first need therefore is to have a Secretary of State for Industry who can provide a new industrial *strategy.* Sir Keith Joseph was the principal architect of the old one. But he is neither acting according to it nor supplying an alternative. He has performed many valuable services for the Conservative Party. He is a stimulating and provocating thinker whose devo*tion to the public good is beyond* question. The time has come, however, for him to hand over this critical task to someone else at the first opportunity. The Government cannot hope to prosper so long as there is this lacuna at the centre of its policy, and there can be no doubt that someone else is required to provide the radical rethinking on which this administration's future will largely depend.

SMALL STEPS TOWARDS REFORM

With the announcement of its proposals for agricultural price increases for the coming year the European Commission has taken the first step in what is likely to be a hotly contested process. The proposals now go to the Council of Ministers for discussion, and it is no secret that there will be sharp differences of opinion. Britain wants to limit the price increases as far as is possible but many other countries, particularly France will regard the Commission's pro*posals as too low,* and argue for higher increases. The process is important for farmers, whose livelihood depends on the outcome, and for consumers, who will have to pay the resulting prices in the shops. But what is, after all, a normal negotiating procedure, comparable to the agricultural price review that used to be conducted in this country, has taken on added significance because of the place that the common agricultural policy has come to occupy in the European Community.

The policy has done a great deal to raise the standard of living of farmers, particularly the bigger and more efficient ones. But it has also led to overproduction, to surpluses that are expensive to store and dispose of, and to a situation in which about 70 per cent of the Community *budget is taken up* by agricultural spending, to the exclusion of spending on other, equally important sectors. Do the Commission's latest proposals contribute to putting things right? Given the realities of political life in the Community they are a small step in the right direction; but they are only proposals, and on past form it will be very hard to get the Ministers of Agriculture to accept very much of them.

The proposals are a complex package which combines price increases ranging from 4 to 12 per cent, depending on the product, with measures to discourage farmers from increasing production unduly. These measures are based on the principle of "coresponsibility" by which, if a farmer produces more than a certain amount, he is held to be partly responsible for the cost of disposing of the resulting surplus; in some cases he has to pay a tax, in others there is a reduction in the price he receives. The main effect of *these measures would be to limit* the open-ended price guarantee that farmers have often had, regardless of the amount they produced. For this they are to be welcomed. They have already been introduced in a small way *for dairy products* and sugar; the Commission now proposes to extend them to other products such as cereals, beef, olive oil, tobacco, fruit and vegetables.

The price increases themselves, estimated to average some 7.5 per cent, are the highest proposed by the Commission in recent years, but they are still below the Community's inflation rate. The main farmers' organiza*tion,* COPA, has asked for 15.3 per cent. France is expected to press for an increase in the Commission's proposed figures, spurred on by the presidential election in April and May, when farmers' votes could be vital to President Giscard d'Estaing's hopes of reelection. West Germany is in two minds, torn between pressures from its farmers and the need to keep down its contribution to the Community budget. Britain, too, is in a dilemma. The Treasury wants to keep price increases to a minimum but Mr Peter Walker, like other Ministers of Agriculture, is apt to think of farmers' interests first. He is opposed to the Commission's proposal of a revaluation of the green pound, which would limit the cost to the consumer of the price increases, but also limit gains to farmers.

Whatever the fate of the Commission's proposals, the difficulties created by the workings of the common agricultural policy remain. On the one hand it is unreasonable to deny farmers price increases at a time of inflation. But by its reliance on a single price, set at a level which will be more or less tolerable to smaller, inefficient farmers, the Community encourages overproduction; and not only does the cost of disposing of surpluses crowd out spending in other areas, but a country like Britain, which produces very little of the surpluses, finds itself financing much of the expense.

These are the basic issues, at least as far as Britain is concerned, and they will come up in the second half of this year when the issue of restructuring Community spending is tackled. There are ways in which the inequities of present arrangements can be ended, such as by modifying the system of price guarantees or by shifting the burden of financing the surpluses. The Commission's pro*posals are only one step* on a long road, and even they have still to be adopted.

Fight on the beaches

From Mr P. M. Barlow

Sir, It is depressing to observe that difficulties are still being encountered in reaching agreement with other EEC member states on a common *fisheries policy.* It is right that we should be concerned about the preservation of salt-water fish stocks, but I think that the time has come for attention to be drawn to an aspect of the "up to the beaches" claim currently being made by the French Government, which has received scant attention in the press.

I refer to the threat that an "up to the beaches" policy would impose on migratory fish stocks, that is to say sea trout and particularly salmon. Parts of the United Kingdom, especially Scotland and Wales, enjoy rivers which are pure enough to support substantial runs of migratory salmonids. Much effort and British money is expended in ensuring the continued purity and improvement of these waters and the maintenance *of their* fish stocks.

The result is that angling for migratory salmonids attracts money in sufficient quantities to relatively poor areas of the United Kingdom to support thriving hotel and tourist facilities, and thus *to provide work* either directly or indirectly for many thousands of people. Legal netting for migratory salmonids should not be ignored either as a source of employment in these relatively depressed areas.

Since 1965 some *1,000 metric* tonnes of salmon per annum have been taken from the Greenland fishery and most of those fish were spawned in the streams of the United Kingdom, the Irish Republic, and Norway. Last year the Faroese took 700 tonnes of *grilse* from the vicinity of the Faroes.

These depredations on the stock salmon are already very serious and threaten the survival of the species. A "fish up to the beaches" policy would vastly increase the threat to the survival of migratory salmonids by opening the approach routes of these fish to their spawning rivers to all the fishermen of the Common Market, some of whom seem to have no understanding of the word "conservation", and whose governments seem either powerless or unwilling to control them. We have already seen what has happened to the North Sea tuna and the herring as a result of over*fishing, and* salmonids are much more vulnerable.

It is therefore essential that Mr Walker be urged to ensure that no agreement on fisheries policy is reached in Brussels without a 12-mile exclusive zone for the United Kingdom as a minimum requirement. Anything less would spell disaster.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. BARLOW,
2 Barley Close,
Sibford Gower,
Banbury,
Oxfordshire.
February 12.

EEC budgets

From Mr Richard Balfe, MEP for London Inner South (Labour)

Sir, Recent stories about excessive expenditure by the European Parliament carry either an implication or a direct statement to the effect that no one other than the European Parliament can control expenditure.

The expenditure of the European Parliament is regulated under what is known as the "gentlemen's agreement": an arrangement whereby the ministers of the member states agree not to interfere in the budget of the Parliament, in return for a *similar* undertaking from the Parliament in respect of the budget of the Council of Ministers.

A number of members of the Budgets Committee of the European Parliament, including some but not all of the Conservatives, have been campaigning since our election in June, 1979, for an end to this cosy arrangement.

It is, therefore, not true to say that member governments can have no control over the expenditure of *the European Parliament. Members* of Parliament in the House of Commons, some of whom, as members of the previous indirectly elected European Parliament, will have had considerable experience of the "junkets", should be helping us by pressing Tory ministers to insist on *reviewing* the "gentlemen's agreement", which was of course accepted by Sir Harold Wilson at the time of the renegotiations.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BALFE,
259 Barry Road, SE22.
February 16.

Evening the score

From Mrs Daphne Slater

Sir, There has been much publicity lately about photo-copying music, with schools and choirs receiving serious fines.

May I put another point of view —that of the private music pupil? As a piano teacher myself, I do my best to *keep music expenses to* the minimum for my pupils, even to the extent of searching out clean second-hand copies.

Imagine my chagrin then, when for my daughter, aged 13, I have to pay £6 for *one* piece set in her grade V Associated Board cello exam. The only way she can have the two movements required from a Vivaldi sonata, is to purchase the whole volume of *six* sonatas.

Is it any wonder musicians turn to photo-copying, in desperation?

Yours sincerely,
DAPHNE SLATER,
10 Provost Road, NW3.
February 18.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Civil Service pay grievances

From the General Secretary of the Association of First Division Civil Servants

Sir, Your leading article, "Civil saboteurs?", on February 19 perfectly captures the dilemma in which civil servants find themselves today. Indeed my own association, which represents senior administrative and related specialist staff, is *doing what only a few years ago* would have been unthinkable, conducting a ballot of members to decide whether we should join in industrial action now being planned by the Council of Civil Service Unions.

If we do, it will not be in pursuit of a large pay increase this year. It will be because we see no other way to try and persuade the Government to restore an orderly system of pay determination in the Civil Service. The alternative, merely to continue as we have for the past six months *to present* rational arguments to an unhearing and uncaring Government, will lead to further discrimination against the Civil Service and a resulting decline in the standards of service which it provides.

It *is* precisely because, as you say, industrial action by the Civil Service will seem to others *like* "a conspiracy to sabotage crucial parts of the financial business of the state" that there needs to be a method of fixing Civil Service pay which is felt to be fair by the Civil Service, by the Government and by the public.

If the Government object to certain features of the system, which lasted for 25 years until its recent suspension by Government, they are free to suggest modifications which can be discussed rationally *under the provisions of the agree*ment. Instead, however, they have behaved in an arbitrary and discriminatory manner which has seriously undermined the mutual trust which should exist between Government and Civil Service.

There *is still just time* for the Government to point the way towards restoring an orderly pay regime for the Civil Service. They will find this association—and, I am sure, our colleagues—ready to respond.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WARD,
17 Northumberland Avenue, WC2.
February 19.

Trade unions and the Labour Party

From Mr Frank Field, MP for Birkenhead (Labour)

Sir, Ken Gill (feature, February 18) is right to stress the historical link between the trade unions and the Labour Party. He is also absolutely right in emphasizing the importance in strengthening rather than weakening this link. However, he fails to begin to address himself to the key issues facing the Labour Party.

What puzzles me about the present debate is not that Labour Party supporters are now asking for a greater say in the running of their party in Parliament, but that it has taken so long for this demand to surface. Britain has a parliamentary system on to which political parties were grafted. The Labour Party is the only party to start in the country and then seek representation in Parliament. The other parties existed first in Parliament and then built up an organization *in the country.*

How one strengthens the role of party member and activist has led to a major division between those of us on the left of the party. Some of us, and I include myself here, argue that the democratization of the party should be carried out in such a way as to strengthen parliamentary government. Others, to use Bagehot's phrase, propose reforms which will turn the parliamentary system into the dignified part of the Constitution behind which a very limited party democracy operates.

This difference of opinion can be seen on the question of the election of the Labour leader. I support an electoral college with full trade-union participation. But for the trade unions to participate in an acceptable way will require changes from the trade unions themselves. At the present time their decision-making process reflects their industrial job and their accountability to all their members. All members have rights in governing what trade unions do on the industrial front; but all members do not have rights in the election of a Labour leader. Communists, Conservatives, Trotskyites and what have you do not have a legitimate right to participate in Labour Party elections.

Ken Gill is wrong to try and dismiss the *one-man, one-vote* principle as a right-wing invention. Of course the attraction of this idea has been weakened by the fact that a number of right-wingers have undergone Pauline conversions after failing to keep the franchise limited to the parliamentary party. But I *would be very surprised if we don't* have one-man, one-vote in all of the constituent parts of the electoral college within a 10-year period.

The reason for this optimism is that events will move our way. Trade union executives at annual conferences rightly reflect the differing political views of the rank and file. It is totally proper that these bodies should decide trade union policy. But there will be a growing public outcry as people realize the basis on which trade unions are helping to elect a Labour leader.

I want trade unions to play a full part in the Labour Party. But now they have decided that we should have an electoral college, they have a duty to find a means of voting in Labour Party matters which party members will accept as being legitimate.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK FIELD,
House of Commons.
February 18.

From Mr Gordon Smith

Sir, It is doubtful whether, in the long run, your eulogies of Mrs Shirley Williams (leading article, February 10) "kindness, compassion, humanity", etc will benefit her chances of leading a successful government. Neither she nor that other charming person, Mr David Steel, has the remotist idea of how to deal with inflation, or how to negotiate with a trade union leader of the calibre of Mr Arthur Scargill.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON SMITH,
44 Devonshire Street, W1.
February 13.

The Church and divorce

From Mr F. R. Clabburn

Sir, The letter from Bishop Mervyn Stockwood (February 13) gently clarifying attitudes of the Church of England to remarriage of divorced persons, saddened me. Not that I disagree with him. His comments show a commendable logic and realism. No, my sadness comes from the necessity to discuss this matter in such a way in 1981.

Many religious organizations, in particular church denominations, have been free to conduct such remarriages for many decades. My own, the Unitarians, have remarried divorced persons for most of this century, as, I am sure, have others.

In our increasingly pluralist society the danger is that the dogmatic intransigence of sections of the established Church will reflect upon all who choose to associate with religious groups. It is hardly a wonder that few people find church life relevant to their own when commonly accepted attitudes are blindly rejected because obscure *texts are interpreted to justify* fixed ideas.

My call is not for "trendiness": —although what is on the edge of acceptability today is often taken for granted tomorrow. It is rather a call for relevance, and for an awareness among church people, especially the "leaders", that they are responsible more to living souls, with real changing needs, than to dead or dying beliefs and a society's rules and norms long outdated.

Sincerely,
FRANK R. CLABBURN,
Pikes Ghyll,
Ashstead Lane,
Godalming,
Surrey.
February 15.

Family matters

From Lady Brook

Sir, When a young girl risking pregnancy has the courage and foresight to ask a doctor for contraception the doctor has a grave responsibility to listen and to give the information, advice and treatment that will best help this particular patient. In her flurry of indignation Dr White (February 17) appears to have misunderstood the nature of this crucial counselling which may determine the future life *of the young girl and her family.* A doctor who moralises and scaremongers instead of listening may simply be writing a prescription for pregnancy.

Last year 58,000 young people came to the 17 Brook Advisory Centres, most of them seeking help with contraception. Two per cent were girls aged under 16. Some came with their mothers, some with an older sister or friend, some with their boyfriends, and some nervously alone. Our policy has always been to help young girls to confide in their parents if they have not already done so and to work with teenagers and parents together to maintain the *loving* support of the family.

The careful counselling provided by the doctors and social *workers* gives young girls an opportunity to explore their feelings about themselves, their boyfriends and their families. Contrary to Dr White's expectation, the counselling includes not only contraception, where *appropriate, but also information* and advice about the legal age of consent and the risks of pregnancy, cancer of the cervix, and venereal disease.

I, too, heard the statement on television by a family-planning *nurse that she had seen a girl of* 12 put on the pill in 10 minutes flat. Unlike Dr White I stayed tuned long enough to hear a doctor cast doubts on the statement. It certainly would not happen at Brook, and I doubt whether it happens at all.

Yours, etc,
HELEN BROOK, President,
Brook Advisory Centres,
153a East Street, SE17.

From Mrs P. D. Riches

Sir, Mrs Caroline Woodroffe, of the Brook Advisory Centres (February 18) brings up that old chestnut that under-age children must be supplied with contraception to prevent abortions. Yet the very statistics she quotes show that the policy the Brook has been carrying out over the years is counter-productive.

The reason is simple: the more contraception has been made available to under-age children, the more recruits have been drawn in, resulting in more sexual activity. Since the pill and other forms of contraception depend on regular use for effectiveness, they are notoriously unreliable when used by immature and feckless adolescents. So it is that we see more pregnancies, abortions, venereal disease, and cancer of the cervix resulting from premature sexual intercourse.

There is an issue of even greater importance. If, as a nation, we *really believe we have lost control* of our children to the extent that the only care and help we can offer them is the provision of "protectives" behind the backs of their parents, then there is little hope for society. When we as a nation give *100 per cent back-up to parents and* the family with *care* and not false expediency to our children, we will be on the right road.

Yours sincerely,
VALERIE RICHES, Hon Secretary,
The Responsible Society,
Wicken,
Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire.
February 18.

Cutting reply

From Sir Blanshard Stamp

Sir, The letter from the Chairman of Southern Gas (February 14) no doubt sets out the procedure which *should be followed* before a supply of gas is disconnected. My own recent experience of another branch of the British Gas Corporation leaves me with the impression that it does not work out quite in the way it should.

I *quite* recentlw received what Mr Rhodes describes as a "final reminder". It was in fact the first and only "reminder". It was dated January 13 and said that if my account was not paid in full "at the end of seven days the supply might be cut off". The notice was dated *January 13 (a Tuesday), the en*velope was postmarked January 15 and the notice was received by the second post on Monday, January 19 —ie on the sixth day.

I could not help thinking that it would save much money and trouble if payment by cheque within a specified time after delivery of the account could be made in a pre-paid envelope. So nice to save 11½p and an encouragement to the more indolent of us to pay quickly and enrich the corporation!

Yours faithfully,
BLANSHARD STAMP,
30 Hanover House,
St John's Wood High Street, NW8.
February 16.

Rates and taxes

From Mr B. Griffiths

Sir, So Mr Gerald Kaufman proposes to replace the present rating system by taxes. I seem to remember that Mrs Thatcher and her party had the same idea when in Opposition.

What happens to these pious proposals when oppositions become governments? Perhaps Mrs Thatcher or Mr Kaufman could enlighten us.

Yours faithfully,
B. GRIFFITHS,
The Ridgeway,
St Albans,
Hertfordshire.
February 16.

Harman case questions

From Mr Anthony Vale

Sir, In contrast to the extraordinary attitude to litigation taken by the Court of Appeal (report, February 7), the United States courts have held that there is a presumption in favour of public inspection and copying of any item entered into evidence at a public session of a trial.

After one of last year's Abscam trials, in which one of the main items of the prosecution's evidence was a videotape of the defendants taking bribes, NBC applied to the court for permission to copy the tape. The United States Court of Appeals in New York held that NBC was entitled to copy the tape, saying that once evidence has become known to members of the public, including the press, through their attendance in court, it would take the most extraordinary circumstances to justify restrictions on the opportunity of those not physically in attendance to see and hear the evidence.

In America, where discovery usually yields many more documents than in English proceedings, the problem of preserving confidentiality is met by the device of a protective order. Such an order, which will typically be agreed upon by the parties, might provide that the documents be shown only to the lawyers in the case and witnesses who *need* to review the contents of the documents. The burden is always upon the party seeking protection to establish the need for it, and the need is much more easily established in pretrial proceedings.

It seems ironical that the Court *of Appeal was so concerned about* the private nature of Williams's action. Williams appears not to have complained about Miss Harman's use of the documents. And what of the action itself? The conditions in which Williams was confined are obviously a matter of concern to him, but is not the concern of the public far greater, namely to see that the government of prisons is civilized and not inhumane?

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY VALE,
448 Berkley Road,
Haverford, PA 19041,
USA.
February 11.

Mr Paisley's declaration

From Mr J. Enoch Powell, MP for South Down (Ulster Unionist)

Sir, Ulster people should also remember about Carson (besides Dr Montgomery Hyde's points in *The Times* of February 17), that he condemned devolution for Ulster unless it was in a context of "devolution all round" or federation, exactly what was laid down in the Portrush declaration of 1974, upon which the then United Ulster Unionist Coalition was founded.

He said (March 19, 1914, Hansard, col 2276): "When you separate one class (of subjects) and say they are to be treated separately from all the rest of the United Kingdom, and furthermore are to be handed over to their traditional enemies, then the right to fight arises".

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
J. ENOCH POWELL,
House of Commons.
February 17.

Ready to tackle life

From Mr P. R. Amphlett

Sir, I trust that the Rugby Football Union, when considering the report of the Burgess committee (details, February 2), will remember the dictum of the Hon G. W. Lyttelton, a housemaster at Eton College early this century, who wrote, "in the grim struggle for fame the game loses its primary object which is recreation. It has nothing of recreation about it; it is the real business of life, oppressive and almost ludicrous in its seriousness."

A plague *on* Burgess, his committee and his leagues.

Yours faithfully,
P. R. AMPHLETT,
Birds Farm,
Upnampton,
Ombersley,
Droitwich,
Worcestershire.
February 13.

Historic buildings threatened

From Mr William Bell and others

Sir, We have been concerned for some time at the way in which the Department of the Environment seems to be neglecting some of its responsibilities in relation to architectural conservation, but Dr Arnold Taylor's letter (January 31) reveals a state of affairs even more dire than we had supposed.

It is particularly sad that this should be so when we have an Environment Secretary clearly committed to conservation, who has taken wise and often courageous decisions on individual threatened buildings since he has been in office. Our admiration should not, *however, blind us to the* fact that important parts of his department are in disarray. The fact that fewer than five investigators are now employed full time on the vital work of listing buildings *in the whole of England and Wales* is only one symptom of a department which seems intent on its own destruction. The rundown of its ancient monument building crafts organizations, which provide an immensely important training ground for traditional restoration skills, is tragic.

The disastrous effect of economies of *this kind* which threaten to destroy the department's inheritance of wisdom and experience is the more saddening when viewed against the waste which the department is party to in the Natural History Museum modernization *scheme.*

We believe that, notwithstanding the lower figures previously canvassed, a realistic estimate for the project is probably in excess of £30m, an immense sum which, even allowing for phasing, can surely *only be achieved by large-scale* neglect or indefinite postponement of many other, far more urgent, works of major maintenance and improvement. In preparation for this unbelievably wasteful (and perhaps never to be completed) *scheme we are soon to witness the* demolition of a large part of one of the best buildings by Alfred Waterhouse, one of our greatest architects.

May we suggest that the departments concerned should not allow themselves greater latitude than would be given to a private owner of a listed building. Under the new Local Government Planning and Land Act an owner who has listed building consent to demolish can be prevented from proceeding until he has actually let the contract for the new building to go on the site. Let the museum find the millions for its new building before it demolishes any part of the masterpiece in its care.

Better of course, by far, to set an example of good housekeeping by adopting a less destructive scheme of improvement. A fraction of the sum now being talked about would pay for an urgently needed 10 new listing investigators, 50 or so monument guardians, a dozen highly skilled building craftsmen and the rental of their workshops for 20 years or more.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM BELL, Chairman,
Historic Buildings Committee,
Greater London Council,
JOHN BETJEMAN,
LOUIS BONDY,
REILLY,
IAN L. PHILLIPS,
JOHN SUMMERSON,
The County Hall, SE1.
February 19.

Language on the air

From Mr H. E. Bell

Sir, Few Parliamentary speeches are memorable; but I wonder why the media *ignored a House of Lords* debate on European education on February 2 in which among much good sense Baroness Young, comparing us with other countries, stated: "Our television and cinema probably give less opportunity for children to hear a foreign language spoken." Are the IBA and BBC considering this?

There is one small change by which television could do a great deal of good. At present whenever a person on the screen starts to speak in a foreign language the voice is faded almost completely and an English summary of what is being said is superimposed. Such a summary could just as easily be prepared and presented in the form of sub-titles.

Every translation is a sidestep from *the truth of the original.* To broadcast the actual words would not only be truthful; it would help to familiarise people, and children in particular, with other languages, and those viewers who are able to follow what is actually being said *would not be frustrated and* deprived.

Yours sincerely,
H. E. BELL,
Office of the Registrar,
The University of Reading.
February 13.

Natural selection

From Mr Richard Need

Sir, You report (February 16) that Professor Randolph Quirk has given five reasons why English is a popular international language. I offer a sixth: that English is comparatively easy to learn, being free from those frills and furbelows that clutter and complicate other languages without adding to their usefulness.

English verbs, for example, hardly conjugate; nouns (apart from pronouns, which have an accusative case) do not decline at all; English scorns the pointless absurdity whereby inanimate objects are given genders; an adjective equally well describes one of this or two of those without having to "agree" in gender and number; the definite article has only one form and does not have to "agree" either.

Add to all this (and much more) a simple and logical sentence structure and it becomes obvious why English was the automatic choice of writers such as Shakespeare, Milton and Wodehouse. Foreigners were bound to wake up sooner or later.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD NEED,
49 Bonner Hill Road,
Kingston upon Thames,
Surrey.
February 18.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 19: Today is the twenty-first Anniversary of the Birthday of The Prince Andrew.

His Excellency the Marques de Perinat and the Marquesa de Perinat were received in farewell audience by The Queen and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from Spain to the Court of St James's.

Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC had the honour of being received by Her Majesty when The Queen invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Order of Merit.

The Duke of Edinburgh this morning addressed the Young People and Training Conference, organized by the Joint Industry Training Boards, at the National Liberal Club, Whitehall Place, SW1.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales will visit Washington, United States, from April 30 to May 3 after his visit to New Zealand. He will have dinner with President Reagan in the White House and will receive an honorary fellowship from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as patron of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, will attend a dinner in connexion with the scheme at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, on February 24.

The Duchess of Kent will present the facelift awards for architects and craftsmen at the Royal Institute of British Architects on March 26.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Ben Hutchings will be held at noon on Thursday, February 26, at St Clement Danes Church, Strand, WC2.

Birthdays today

The Right Rev George Appleton, 79; Sir Stafford Bourne, 81; Mr Peter Ford, 69; Dr Ruth Gipps, 60; Sir Oswald Jenkins, 74; Rear-Admiral Sir Rowland Jerram, 91; Commandant Dame Marion Kettlewell, 67; Sir Cecil King, 80; Sir Peter Macdonald, 83; Professor Sir William Mansfield Cooper, 78; Sir Frederick Page, 64; Mr Sidney Poitier, 54; Dame Marie Rambert, 93; Air Marshal Sir Anthony Selway, 72.

Christening

The infant daughter of Mr and Mrs. Nicholas Vanderveil was christened Katherine Elizabeth Jane by the Rev Gary Davies at the Church of St Mary The Boltons on Monday, February 16. The godparents are Mr and Mrs Martin Scadgell, Mrs Jane Brown and Mrs Michael Chittenden.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Lord Justice Fox to be a member of the Privy Council on his appointment as a lord justice of appeal.

Mr Gerald Corless to be Chief Executive of the London Borough of Southwark.

Mr Chris Bond to be artistic director of Liverpool Playhouse and Mr Bill Morrison, Mr Willy Russell and Mr Alan Bleasdale to be associate directors.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M. N. C. Bradley and Miss C. Forbes
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Bradley, of Lymington, Hampshire, and Catriona, daughter of Commander Ian Forbes, of Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire, and Lady Penelope Cator, of Henham, Beccles, Suffolk.

Mr A. M. Aylward and Miss F. O. S. Ball
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of the late Mr and Mrs Mathias Aylward, of Mtoko, Rhodesia, and Fleur, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs H. S. Ball, of Salcombe Regis, Devon.

Mr J. S. Dear and Miss L. M. Reuss
The engagement is announced between John, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. M. J. Dear, of Phillimore Gardens, London, W8, and Louise daughter of Mr and Mrs G. A. K. Reuss, of Drayton Gardens, London SW10.

Mr P. H. J. Engels and Miss J. L. Henry
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs J. P. Engels, of The Hague, Holland, and Janet, daughter of Dr and Mrs D. B. Henry, of Harrow, Middlesex.

Mr J. D. Lynn and Miss L. J. Clarke
The engagement is announced between Jonathan David, younger son of Mr and Mrs W. E. Lynn, of Sutton Coldfield, and Lesley Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. S. Clarke, of Wightwick, Wolverhampton.

Mr A. G. Smithson and Miss A. M. White
The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mrs H. Smithson and the late Dr R. G. Smithson, MD, of Wetherby, Yorkshire and Margaret, daughter of Mrs J. T. White and the late Mr C. Montgomery White, QC, of Sandwich, Kent.

Mr R. A. Waterer and Mlle F. M. C. Dherse
The engagement is announced between Robin, eldest son of Mr and Mrs R. D. Waterer, of Wyvols Court, Swallowfield, Berkshire, and Florence, elder daughter of M and Mme J.-L. Dherse, of Chester Street, London.

Mr R. J. Wylde and Miss S. E. Paddock
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs R. P. Wylde, of Rochester, Kent, and Sarah, younger daughter of Mr G. J. Paddock, of St Margaret's Bay, Kent, and of Mrs H. F. Paddock, of Huish Champflower, Somerset.

Buckingham Palace luncheon party

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh held a luncheon party at Buckingham Palace yesterday. The guests were:
Dame Josephine Barnes (obstetrician and gynaecologist), Mr Bill Beaumont (captain, England Rugby Union team), Mr Michael Codron (theatrical producer), Mr Terence Duffy (president, Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers), Professor F. R. Farmer (safety adviser to the Atomic Energy Authority), Mr Ian MacGregor (chairman, British Steel Corporation), Mr Alan Newton (engineering director, Rolls-Royce Ltd) and Lord Justice Watkins, VC (a Lord Justice of Appeal).

Alexandra Rose Ball

The Alexandra Rose Ball will be held on Thursday, May 21, at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W1, from 8.30 pm until 2 am. Tickets are available at £20 each, including dinner, from: Mrs B. Weston, 1 Castelnau, Barnes, SW13 9RP. The chairman of the committee is Countess Fortescue and the junior committee is jointly organized by Miss Marcia Kimball and Miss Lucy Acland.

£27,000 for 1865 Krieghoff painting of Indians

By Huon Mallalieu

A sale of paintings at Bonhams yesterday was considerably enriched by a picture of Huron Indians with a sledge, dated 1865, by Cornelius Krieghoff, the Dutchman who spent much of his career in Canada.

It was bought for £27,000 by J. Mitchell and Sons, the London dealers, in collaboration with the Nanuge Gallery of Halifax, Nova Scotia, the partnership having been duly registered with the auctioneers. In 1933 the painting had cost the vendor £60, and Bonhams had placed an estimate of from £8,000 to £12,000 on it.

The sale made a total of £89,780.

In Somerset, Lawrence of Crewkerne offered furniture, making £107,099, with less than 0.75 per cent bought in. A small, elegant Chippendale serpentine mahogany commode made £22,000, going to a London dealer in competition with a collector. It was one of a number of items from Hingaston House, near Sturminster Newton.

There was more furniture at Christie's, most notably a Dutch burr-walnut and marquetry bureau-cabinet with two glazed cupboard doors and a bombé base, which went to a dealer from Putney for £15,000 (estimate £4,000 to £6,000). In a carpet section a large Heriz example with a brick-red field, which had carried an estimate of from £1,800 to £2,500, made £6,000. The sale produced £169,295, with 18 per cent bought in.

A sale of British and Continental pewter and metalwork at Sotheby's also included one lot of outstanding merit, and the auctioneers were on the mark with an estimate of from £4,000 to £6,000.

It was an apparently unique and previously unrecorded pear-shaped and fluted pewter flagon dating from about 1610. Only two other Elizabethan or early Stuart flagons of that shape are known to exist, and all three differ in their details. The present example went to the dealer, Bellamy, at £5,200, and the sale made £33,402, with 6.5 per cent failing to find buyers.

A sale of printed books, atlases and maps at Phillips made £27,036, with some 7 per cent bought in. The greatest interest was aroused by a small collection of erotic works, and a German enthusiast paid £980 for the 10 volumes of *La Nouvelle Justine*, by the Marquis de Sade, in the 1797 edition (estimate £850). *The New Epicurean, or The Delights of Sex*, in two parts, 1875, which was extra-illustrated with 30 photographs, made £700, against an estimate of £75.

The painting of Huron Indians by Cornelius Krieghoff. In 1933 it was sold for £60.

Luncheon

London Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, was the principal guest and speaker at the centenary luncheon given for founder members of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Painters' Hall yesterday. Mr R. T. S. Macpherson, chairman of the chamber, presided.

Dinners

Indian Journalists' Association
The India Republic Day (January 26) dinner of the Indian Journalists' Association (Europe) was held at the Connaught Rooms yesterday. Dr Tarapada Basu, president, was in the chair and the other speakers were Mr William Whitelaw, MP, Lord Brockway, Lord Tanlaw, the High Commissioner for India and Mr V. R. Bhatt, vice-president. Among others present were:
Mrs Whitelaw, Mrs S. Muhammad, Lady Tanlaw, Mrs Bhatt; the High Commissioner for Mauritius and Lady Teelock, the High Commissioner for Tanzania and Mrs Nsekela, the Ambassador of Nepal and Mme Singha, the Acting High Commissioner for Bangladesh, the Deputy High Commissioner for India and Mrs Singh; Lord and Lady Greenwood of Rossendale, Mr C. P. Srivastava, Dr and Mrs K. S. Shelvanker, the Trade Commissioner for Sri Lanka, M and Mme V. N. Keline, Mr Julius Silverman, MP, and Mrs Silverman, Mr Norman Atkinson, MP, and Mrs Atkinson, Mr John Hunt, MP, Mr Eldon Griffiths, MP, Mr Peter Bottomley, MP, and Mrs Bottomley, Mr Sidney Bidwell, MP, Mr and Mrs David Lane, Mr and Mrs B. Gathani, Mr and Mrs B. K. Tiwari, Mr B. K. Joshi, Mr R. Puri and Mr and Mrs W. Martin.

Butchers' Company
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their ladies were present at the annual ladies' livery dinner of the Butchers' Company held at Butchers' Hall last night. Mr David Cornell, Master, presided. The other speakers were the Lord Mayor, Mr Robert Garnham, Mr Peter Moore, and Judge J. Miskin, QC, Recorder of London. Others present included:
The High Commissioner for New Zealand, Lord Astor of Hever, Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Lord Campbell of Croy, and Lord Bradbury, with their ladies.

Apostolic Delegate
The Lord Privy Seal and Lady Caroline Gilmour were the guests of honour at a dinner given by the Apostolic Delegate at the Apostolic Delegation yesterday. The other guests were:
The Ambassador of Finland and Mme Tötterman, Mary Duchess of Roxburghe, Lord and Lady Rupert Nevill, the Hon Georgina Stonor, Sir Philip and the Hon Lady Adams, Sir Charles and Lady Forte, Mr Dennis C. R. Pehrson, Mgr Mario Oliveri and Father Kieran Conry.

Association of Consulting Engineers
Mr J. W. Baxter, chairman of the Association of Consulting Engineers, presided at their annual dinner held at the Hilton hotel yesterday. Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, and Lord McAlpine of Moffat also spoke. The guests included:
The acting High Commissioner for Kenya, Mr Neil Marten, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Minister for Overseas Development, Sir Francis Sandilands, members of Parliament, officials of HM Civil Service and the presidents of learned societies and professional bodies.

GLC
After a concert held at the Festival Hall last night the chairman of the GLC and Mrs Brook-Partridge entertained at dinner at the Riverside Restaurant Mr and Mrs Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Mr and Mrs Lester S. Lovel and Mr and Mrs Cyril J. H. Taylor.

Mr D. Sims
Mr Dean Sims, President of Public Relations International, was host at a dinner last night at the Caledonian Club. Those present were:
Mr Henry James, Mr Raymond Marquis, Mr Anthony Minns, Mrs Norah Owen, Mr Tim Swann, Mr Barrie Taylor, Mr Graham Williams, Mr Peter Walker, Mr Barry Young and Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Young.

University news

Reading
Norman E. Palmer, MA, BCL (Oxford), senior lecturer at Manchester University, has been appointed to a professorship of law.

Keele
Princess Margaret, as chancellor, will confer honorary degrees on the following:
DLitt: The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie (on June 30); Professor Campbell Stewart, vice-chancellor, 1967-79; Mr Charles Tomlinson, the poet (May 7).
D Univ: Mr Jack Ashley, MP (May 7).
DSc: Professor Christian de Duve, winner of 1974 Nobel Prize for Medicine (May 7).
M Univ: Sir David Barritt, former chairman of Cammell Laird (May 7).
MA: Mr James Gould, historian and archaeologist (May 7).

Warwick
Grants
Natural Environment Research Council: £24,000 to Dr Howard Slater to study the influence of environmental conditions on the transfer of genetic information.

7,000 sets of 'New Grove' music dictionary sold

By Martin Huckerby
Music Reporter

The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, which was formally launched in Britain yesterday, has covered its costs, and bids fair to become a big financial success for the publishers, Macmillan.

About £4m has been invested in the development of the 20-volume work and Mr Maurice Macmillan said it had been a considerable commercial risk. But the company said it had already broken even on the project, and could thus look forward to profits.

Many sets of the 20-volume work were sold in advance of publication at reduced rates and many others have been sold since the publication of the work in North America last November. It costs £850, but the company said it had already sold more than 7,000 sets. Just over 3,000 have gone to North America.

About 65 per cent of the sets have been bought by institutions and another 10 per cent by many of the 2,300 contributors; the rest have gone to individuals.

The number of copies being bought by individuals has been much higher than the company expected, although it pointed out that the price was only equivalent to that of a very good stereo set.

With contributors from 71 countries, and only about 21 per cent of the dictionary coming from British writers, the *New Grove* is much more international than its predecessor, which came out in 1954. It provides much more comprehensive coverage of the world's music, as well as greatly expanded information on ethnic and folk music.

The previous edition was still aimed essentially at the amateur, but the *New Grove* is intended as a basic work of scholarship. Containing more than 22 million words, it includes 22,500 articles, of which more than 16,500 are biographies, and there are more than 4,500 illustrations.

Natural History Museum to celebrate its centenary

By a Staff Reporter

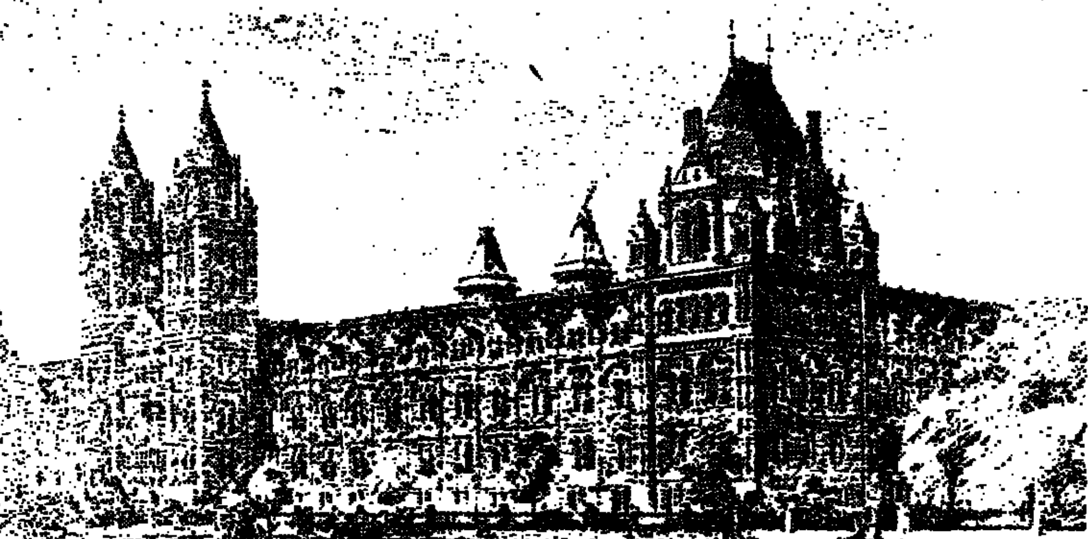
The Natural History Museum will celebrate its centenary this year with the opening in May of a large permanent exhibition entitled Origin of Species and a visit by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on the same day.

Professor Sir Andrew Huxley, president of the Royal Society, will open the new exhibition on May 27, and the public will be admitted from May 28. Later in the year there will be two open days, when people with a particular interest in the biological sciences will be able to see the work of the museum.

An exhibition showing the growth of the collections and the scientific work of the museum and called Nature Stored: Nature Studied opened last month and will run until the end of December. Several books are being published to mark the centenary, including a history of the museum by W. T. Stearn, from its beginnings within the British Museum, and a history of the existing building, opened in April, 1881, by Mark Girouard.

The Origin of Species exhibition will trace Charles Darwin's arguments for natural selection and will provide evidence of some of the effects of natural selection among living species. Visitors will be able to use a computer display to see how Darwin's four steps lead to the theory of natural selection.

Wherever possible, specimens, models and games will be used to illustrate the ideas under discussion and to encourage visitors to decide for themselves what is valid and what is not. A book will be published to accompany the exhibition.



An engraving from a watercolour painting of the Natural History Museum by the architect, Alfred Waterhouse.

Today's engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Intelligence Corps, lunches with members of the Grey and Green Club, Artillery House, Handel Street, 12.50; as Admiral of Royal Naval Sailing Association attends commodore's dinner at HMS Dolphin, Gosport, 7.35.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Regiment of Wales, receives freedom of Swansea on behalf of regiment, 2.30.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother dines with members of 600 Squadron Officers Dining Club, Merchant Taylors' Hall, 7.30.

Exhibitions: Anna Pavlova, costumes and photographs, Museum of London, 150 London Wall, 10-6; Sculptures, drawings and graphics by Leonard Baskin, Cottage Gallery, 9 Hereford Road, 10-6; Pamina Mahrenholz, paintings and drawings, Ben Uri Gallery, 21 Dean Street, 10-5; Gaining momentum: photographs of women, Half Moon Workshop, 119 Roman Road, 12-6.

Lectures: Magritte, by Mary Ellis, Tate Gallery, 1; Classical terracottas, everyday life scenes, Patsy Vanags, British Museum, 11.30; Philistines and Phoenicians, David Williams, British Museum, 1.15; Moretto, portrait of a man, Audrey Tyndall, National Gallery, 1; Geology of stone artifacts, A. R. Woolley and D. T. Moore, Geological Museum, 6.30.

Walks: The road to Tyburn, meet main gate St Bartholomew's Hospital, 2; Ghouls, ghosts and ghastly phenomena, meet main gate, St Bartholomew's Hospital, 7.

Funeral service: Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser of North Cape, St Barbara's, HMS Excellent, Whale Island, Portsmouth, 11.15.

Memorial Service: Air Chief Marshal Sir John Stacey, St Clement Danes, Strand, noon.

OBITUARY

MISS OLIVE GILBERT

Distinguished association with the productions of Ivor Novello

Miss Olive Gilbert, the singer, who died yesterday, will be best remembered for the great part she played in the success of many of Ivor Novello's musical productions.

Born in Carmarthen she sang the contralto parts with the Carl Rosa Opera Company for many years. She was heard as Carmen, Delilah, Mignon and Suuki and her melodious voice, her acting ability and her imposing presence soon established her as a warm favourite with audiences.

Her association with Ivor Novello was the turning point of her career. She joined his company for the production of *Glamorous Night* in May 1935 and she remained with him until his death in 1951. It was characteristic of him that he retained for show after show what was almost a stock company. The Old Novellians, as they used to be called, included Miss Gilbert, Mr Robert Andrews, Mr Peter Graves and the late Miss Minnie Rayner and Miss Gilbert's position in the team was an unusually strong one.

As well as playing many stage parts written especially for her with unvarying success, Olive Gilbert was also a born organizer. In his biography of Novello, Mr Macqueen Pope wrote "Ivor owed much to Olive who for a long time looked after him, controlled his staff and his flat, to say nothing of Redroofs which became perhaps the best known theatrical home in the world. She would see that he got the food he liked and all the dishes he fancied." Her flat was in the same block as Novello's in the Aldwych and she was called in to be with him when he died.

Among his productions with which Miss Gilbert was associated were *Glamorous Night*, *Careless Rapture*, *Crest of the Wave* and *The Dancing Years* at Drury Lane; *Perchance to Dream* at the Hippodrome; *Arc de Triomphe* at the Phoenix,



and *King's Rhapsody* at the Palace. *Perchance to Dream* was possibly her greatest triumph for it enabled her to use her delightful voice to great advantage and to reveal her gifts of comedy and pathos. In it was "We'll gather lilacs," which she sang first at a Sunday night broadcast before the actual production and thereafter sang it repeatedly. When Novello died it was played at his cremation and a multitude of hushed mourners heard it through loud speakers outside the crematorium.

Playgoers will recall Miss Gilbert also in the finale of *Careless Rapture*. It was an all-white scene of China and Miss Gilbert, dressed in white, completely dominated it with her resonant voice at the head of a large chorus and orchestra.

She was at the Palace Theatre from May 1961 playing Sister Margaretta in *The Sound of Music*, a part she appeared in until January 1967 throughout the play's run of over 2,000 performances. In the late 1960s she was the housekeeper in *Man of La Mancha* and in the early 1970s toured in *Bless the Bride* in *Perchance to Dream* as Ernestine Flavell and *King's Rhapsody* as Countess Vera.

Miss Gilbert never married.

PROFESSOR FRANZ SONDHEIMER

Professor Franz Sondheimer, FRS, who died in Stanford, California, on February 11, was a distinguished scientist who had made fundamental contributions to organic chemistry.

Born in Stuttgart in 1926, he came to England with his family in 1937. He was educated at Highgate School and the Imperial College of Science. He began his research career at Imperial College with Sir Ian Heilbron and Professor (now Sir Ewart) Jones, studying the use of acetylenic compounds in organic synthesis, an interest which was to continue throughout his life. He obtained his PhD degree in 1948 and, after a further year at Imperial College, went to Harvard University as a post-doctoral fellow. Here, as a collaborator of R. B. Woodward, he made his first major contribution to organic chemistry as a participant in the first total synthesis of a non-aromatic steroid. This synthesis was of significance in that a deliberate attempt was made to control and predict the stereochemistry of the reactions used, a procedure now mandatory in all natural product syntheses. This synthesis was readily eleaborated to prepare cholesterol and cortisone, then a compound of considerable medical importance.

Sondheimer's great talents as a synthetic chemist had now been fully recognized and he was asked whether he would like the post of Assistant Director of Research at the Syntex Pharmaceutical Company, then in Mexico. In this post he participated at an early stage in what was to become one of the fastest growth companies in the United States, and his first collaborative paper was only the fifty-seventh contributed from the Syntex laboratory. There his achievements included syntheses of cortisone, testosterone and norethisterone, a potent oral progeseterone, and numerous papers on the steroidal sapogenins, a valuable plant source of steroids. He was also able to indulge in his love of solo flying, surveying Mexico's volcanoes and visiting the then inaccessible Mayan ruins.

In 1956 he left Mexico for Israel, where he became Head of the Organic Chemistry Department of the Weizmann Institute of Science. The Weizmann Institute provided ideal conditions for the development of a vigorous research programme and, while continuing investigations on steroids, he turned his attention to terpene synthesis and again to acetylene chemistry. He reinvestigated an old reaction, the oxidative coupling of acetylenes but now, with the advantage of modern chromatographic techniques, he was able to separate the polymeric products and isolate cyclic polyacetylenes. These macrocyclic compounds, containing from 14 to 60 carbon atoms, could be isomerized to give fully conjugated molecules. In 1959, the chemical world was startled by the announcement that the first macrocyclic analogue of benzene had been prepared.

The synthesis of (18) annulene, a compound with 18 carbon atoms and nine double bonds, was rapidly followed by the preparation of other macrocyclic annulenes, and these compounds have been of immense significance to the development of the theory of organic chemistry. Erich Huckel had predicted in the 1930s that conjugated cyclic compounds with an odd number of double bonds would be benzene-like, whereas those with an even number of double bonds would not. At that time there were only two compounds known with which to test this theory, benzene and a cyclic compound with four double bonds, cyclooctatetraene, and other arguments were advanced to explain the fact that the latter compound was not benzene like. Some evidence to support Hückel's rule had come from charged species, but the annulenes provided the first major test of the theory with neutral compounds. It was shown that for the series (14), (16), and (18) annulene there was, as predicted, an alternation in the spectroscopic properties. For the first time theory had been able to predict the properties of an organic compound. All modern text-books of organic chemistry contain an account of the conclusions of this work.

For a short period Sondheimer returned to Syntex as Vice-President of Research while still holding his post in Israel, and then in 1960 he was appointed Rebecca and Israel Sieff Professor of Organic Chemistry at the Weizmann Institute. In 1964 he returned to the United Kingdom as Royal Society Research Professor at Cambridge, where he also held a Fellowship at Churchill College. At Cambridge he continued and expanded his investigations into the annulenes, preparing the first derivative of a macrocyclic annulenone, and in the steroid field he completed syntheses of A-nor-19-nortestosterone and bufalin. He also developed an interest in medium ring compounds containing eight and 10 carbon atoms.

In 1967 he transferred with his Royal Society Professorship to University College London. In London he began to study macrocyclic compounds containing heteroatoms and extended the annulene series with the synthesis of the twenty and twenty-two membered rings. A number of highly strained, planar eight-membered ring systems were prepared and their properties explored. He had recently begun to investigate synthetic routes to ionophores, compounds involved in the transport of ions across membranes.

His reputation attracted research workers from all parts of the world and his laboratories always contained a polyglot of nationalities. He was delighted with this, being a firm believer in the international character of science, and he was deeply disturbed by legislation which impeded the interchange of young people between countries. Many of his former collaborators and students now hold senior positions in universities and industry worldwide, and he was very proud of their achievements. He was also proud of his British nationality and of the liberal and far sighted traditions which had allowed him to emigrate to this country.

His eminence in organic synthesis was widely recognised and he received awards from many quarters and was in demand as a lecturer. He was elected FRS in 1967.

He married Betty Jane Moss in 1958. There were no children from the marriage, but he was devoted to his stepdaughter.

Vice-Admiral Anders Helgesen Vedel, who in 1943 ordered the Danish fleet to be scuttled to prevent it falling into German hands, died on February 11 at the age of 87. From 1950 until his retirement in 1958, he commanded Denmark's naval forces.

Lady Angwin, widow of Colonel Sir Stanley Angwin, KCMG, KBE, DSO, MC, has died at the age of 88. She was Dorothy Gladys, daughter of W. H. Back, and she was married in 1921. Her husband died in 1959.

Lady Watkinson, widow of Sir Laurence Watkinson, KCB, CB, MC, died on February 17 at the age of 83. She was Doris (Chips), daughter of Richard Pilling, and she was married in 1919. Her husband died in 1974.

Memorial service

Mr R. W. Nevin
A memorial service for Mr Robert Wallace Nevin was held on February 17 in the chapel of St Thomas's Hospital. The Rev Michael Stephens, hospitaller, officiated. Sir Hugh Lockhart-Mummery read the lesson and Lord Richardson gave an address. Mr Martin Leeson (brother-in-law) played the organ. Among those present were:
Mrs Nevin (widow), [illegible] ... Sir Edward and Lady Tuckwell, Lady (John) Prideaux, Lady Lockhart-Mummery, Sir David McNee, Commissioner, Metropolitan Police, with Mr J. Gerard, Assistant Commissioner, Mr and Mrs R. W. Lloyd-Davies, and Dr E. Bott, Chief Medical Officer, and Mrs Bott.
Sir David Woodbine Parish, Chairman of the Medical School Council, with Dr Brian Creamer, dean, and Mrs Creamer, Dr Ronald Bradley, chairman, Medical and Surgical Officers' Committee, Mr V. H. Warren, school secretary, and Mrs Warren, Miss M. Laurence, district nursing officer, Dr D. Howells, district administrator; Miss S. Hurley, vice-president, Amalgamated Clubs, and Miss N. Thomas, treasurer, Mr R. Macdonagh, captain, St Thomas's Hospital Rugby Club, Mr [illegible] Stone, Captain of the Boat Club and other members of the medical, nursing and administrative staff past and present including Dr H. [illegible], Dr J. H. Hamnen, Mr Harvey-Jackson, Dr W. D. Wylie, Professor [illegible] Young, Professor H. Barcroft, Dr A. L. Crockford, Mrs D. V. Davies, Miss M. Darley, Miss D. Lincoln, Miss M. Fox-Davies, Mrs J. Denaro, chairman, Friends of St Thomas's Hospital.
The Master of the Salters' Company with the Wardens, Clerk and members of the court, Professor J. B. Kinmonth (representing the Royal College of Surgeons of England) and Mrs Kinmonth, Mr Adrian Marston (representing the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Council of Marlborough College), Mr Alexander Law (London Hospital), Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. M. Reese (representing 22 General Hospital, TA), Miss J. Pottinger (representing King Edward's Hospital Fund for London).
Sir Noel Moynihan, Mr W. R. van Straubenzee, MP, Canon James Mansel, Miss N. Bruce-Gardyne (representing Odiham Deanery), Professor J. A. Dudgeon, Dr William A. R. Thomson, Commander E. A. Morrison (representing the Order of St John, Hampshire), Rear-Admiral W. K. Weston, Mr and Mrs John Glyn, Dr S. Cusdin (representing Cusdin, Burden and Howitt, Architects), Mr and Mrs Frank d'Abreu, Mrs V. Leonard (W. Dykes Bower) and other friends.

Latest wills

Mr Claude Coates, of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire, left estate valued at £772,035 net. After personal bequests he left 4 21sts of the residue to All Saints Parochial Church Council, Walsoken; 2 21sts each to Wisbech Museum, Ely Diocesan Church of England Council for Social Aid, British Wireless for the Blind Fund and Guide Dogs for the Blind Association; 1 21st each to Emneth Parish Council, St Edmunds Parochial Church Council, Emneth Methodist Church, and the Coates Cup Charity, and 5 21sts to be divided pro rata among the residuary beneficiaries.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Birkby, Mr Ralph Warren, of Scarborough £149,411
Blacklock, Mrs Mary Georgina, of St Ives, Cornwall .. £149,983
Blunt, Mrs Clarice Irene, of Wadhurst, East Sussex £215,640
Hassall, Mrs Elizabeth Dorothea Priaulx, of Chester .. £204,397
Hughes, Mr Rice John Lloyd, of Twickenham £296,943
Lane, Mr Jack, of Shaw, Lancashire £140,997
Jones, Mr Clifford Morley, of Adlorton, Shropshire £169,174
Jurmann, Mr Abraham Wolf, of Kilburn, London .. £137,080
Martin, Mr Alfred Harry, of Drewsteignton, Devon .. £135,113
Miskin, Mr John Holmes, of St Albans, Hertfordshire .. £158,053
Mould, Mr Harold Smart, of North Shields £142,491
Nicholson, Lady, of Rudgwick, West Sussex £212,940
Porter, Mr Aldwyn Francis, of Guys Cliffe, Warwickshire £243,748
Winifred, Mrs Gwendoline Maude, of Liphook, Hampshire £172,753
Wykeham-Musgrave, Miss Monica Bryce, of Cirencester .. £239,992

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, Feb 20, 1956

Troops leave canal zone

From Our Own Correspondent

Cairo, Feb 19.—The withdrawal of British troops from the Suez Canal zone under the terms of the Anglo-Egyptian agreement of 1954 is proceeding well ahead of the time table, partly because of events in Cyprus. The agreement stipulated that by yesterday's date only 22,000 troops should remain in the zone; in fact the British Embassy has announced that fewer than 15,000 are still there. All the installations to be operated by civilian contractors under the agreement have been handed over to them, and there are no troops left at Fayid.

Science report

Nutrition: Help for mentally retarded

By the Staff of *Nature*

A team that has carried out a short exploratory study of the effects of carefully chosen nutritional supplements on mentally retarded children has reported an encouraging improvement in IQ. While the team cannot draw general conclusions from their results, they hope that more work will be done to explore the possibility of extending such treatment.

Treatment of disease by dietary manipulation is not new, and several inherited diseases respond to supplements of, for example, vitamins. About 30 years ago Dr R. J. Williams named such conditions genetotrophic diseases, with the characteristic that they could be prevented or at least ameliorated by supplementing the patient's supply of one or more specific nutrients.

That concept inspired Dr R. F. Harrell of Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia, and her colleagues to look at the effect of a course of nutritional supplements on a severely retarded child, aged seven, brought for treatment. After a few weeks there was a striking improvement; the child began to talk, then to read and write and behave like a normal child, with an IQ of about 90. That encouraged the team to explore further the idea that mental retardation might be a genetotrophic disease.

In the next stage of their study they treated 22 mentally retarded children, aged five to thirteen years, living in or near Norfolk, Virginia, who were brought by their parents as volunteers. During the first four months of the study, one group of children received nutritional supplements and the rest received placebos; during the second period of four months, the situation was reversed. Six patients dropped out, for various reasons.

The supplements consisted of eleven vitamins and eight minerals, with extra thyroid hormone if needed, administered by the parents in six tablets each day. The experimenters did not know which children had been in which group until they had completed the tests of IQ and the results had been sent to the University of Texas for analysis by Dr W. Shive.

The team reports that the results for the first four months appear promising. At the start of the study IQ varied from about 70 to 17. After four months on the supplements most children had increased by a few points, sometimes as many as 10, although some declined. One of the two groups received a further four months of supplementation, and their IQs further increased by from 12 to 24. No significant increases were found while the children were taking the placebos.

The team found that the greatest improvements tended to occur in the younger children, with the exception of one aged 13 whose IQ increased 19 points. The team is reluctant to see significance in that, however, because of the small number of children involved in the study.

While receiving the supplementation, the children also improved in height and weight, and three out of four who wore glasses experienced an improvement in visual acuity.

Dr Harrell and her colleagues hope that their preliminary results will encourage others to investigate more fully the possibility of treating mental retardation with nutritional supplements. The wide variety of types of mental retardation will obviously add complications, and much greater testing of nutritional supplements will be needed before their therapeutic value can be properly assessed.

Source: *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, January 81 (vol 78, pages 574) 1981.

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THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Tight limit sought on coal imports page 18

Stock markets
FT Ind 494.2, up 4.9
FT Gilts 69.42, up 0.12

Sterling
$2.2855, up 190 pts
Index 101.9, down 0.3

Dollar
Index 100.1, down 0.1
DM2.1375, down 490 pts

Gold
$502.50, down $2.50

Money
3-mth sterling 13⅞-13
3-mth Euro-$ 17[illegible]-16[illegible]
6-mth Euro-$ 17[illegible]-16[illegible]

IN BRIEF

rick works) close ith loss of ,100 jobs

ondon Brick is to close its ...mont works in Bedford... at the end of May, with loss of 1,100 jobs. ...e company said that house-...ding had fallen to its lowest ... for more than 50 years ... there had been a "conse-...t reduction in the demand ... bricks.

...e company had built up ...brick bank" at times of low ...and, cushioning the effects ...roduction and employment. ...t now had over 500 million ...ks in stock, equivalent to ...eeks production.

...r James Bristow, London ...k's managing director in ...e of production, said the ...kers had been on a four-...week since October. "We ...have no option but to ...e this further cut in out-...

rth Sea oil find

...significant oil find has ...made by a consortium led ...Amoco in North Sea block ...2B, 175 miles east of ...rdeen. The discovery, near ...Fulmar, Auk and Clyde ...s, is of a high quality light ...e with a test flow of 6,750 ...els a day. The find could ...an important bearing on ...proposed North Sea gas ...ering pipeline. Other ...ps in the consortium are ...sh Gas, Mobil, Amerada ...Texas Eastern.

ng-life lamp

...new fluorescent lamp which ...aimed to provide the light ...ty of a traditional filament ...but which consumes only ...one-fifth the power was ...unced yesterday by Thorn ...ing, part of the Thorn-EMI ...

...e new lamp is expected to ...for about £3 and to have ...of 5,000 hours, compared ...about 1,000 hours for a ...ehold filament bulb. It is ...ated that over its expected ...the new lamp would cost ...£16 less in electricity than ...isting 100-watt bulb.

y mine closing

...tish Steel's Micklam No 5 ...ay mine at Lowca, Cum-...is to close next month ...the loss of 22 jobs. The ...is no longer economic, ...h Steel said.

atres' computer

... and eight of Britain's ...ng theatres have joined ...s to design a computer-...box office administration ...m called BORIS standing ...ox Office Reservation and ...mation System.

ysler cash delay

...erica's Federal Loan ..., which is supervising the ...e of Chrysler Corporation, ...rejected a revised debt ...ment between the com-...and its banks, forcing the ...ler to put off a planned ...(£171m) note sale for at ...another week.

tton import dispute

...ish steelworkers are angry ...British Steel Corporation ...ion to import 20,000 tonnes ...utch steel to supply a ...ing plant at Shotton, ...Wales.

R exchange rates

...pound against the Special ...ing Right was 0.540013 ...the dollar rate was ...10.

PRICE CHANGES

...S

...ley Exp	20p to 258p	Lasmo	15p to 647p
...ocomps	25p to 688p	Ldn Sumatra	13p to 388p
	13p to 646p	MK Elec	12p to 198p
...r Sidd	14p to 280p	Sun Alliance	15p to 769p
...rth Morris	2p to 18p	Utd Scientific	13p to 361p

...S

...& Gen	5p to 373p	Crouch Grp	7p to 138p
...atham	10p to 252p	Daejan Hldgs	13p to 165p
...isheries	5p to 48p	Duport	1p to 11½p
...ys	4p to 391p	Int Thomson	7p to 297p
	4p to 238p	Rowntree Mac	6p to 160p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
...alia $	2.01	1.93
...a Sch	36.50	34.30
...um Fr	83.00	79.00
...a $	2.79	2.70
...ark Kr	15.75	14.95
...d Mkk	9.72	9.22
...e Fr	11.75	11.25
...ny DM	5.10	4.86
...e Dr	118.00	112.00
...ong $	12.40	11.80
...d Pt	1.37	1.31
...Lir	2440.00	2330.00
...Yen	492.00	466.00
...rlands Gld	5.54	5.28
Norway Kr	12.75	12.10
Portugal Esc	131.50	125.00
South Africa Rd	2.18	2.03
Spain Pta	203.00	194.00
Sweden Kr	10.95	10.40
Switzerland Fr	4.62	4.39
USA $	2.32	2.25
Yugoslavia Dnr	85.50	80.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

£12,400m PSBR total in nine months outstrips revised target for full year

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

The public sector borrowing requirement soared to £12,400m in the first nine months of the present financial year and now looks set to emerge in the region of £13,000m for the full year.

This compares with the Chancellor's original prediction last spring of a full year PSBR of £8,500m and his revised estimate of £11,500m in November.

But there was also some encouraging news for the Government yesterday in the January money supply figures, which confirmed the recent slowdown in the growth of private sector credit demand.

Overall, the broad based money supply sterling M3, rose by £440m, or 0.7 per cent, in the six weeks to January 21. This means that sterling M3 has grown at an annual rate of nearly 21 per cent since last February, the base date for the present target of 7 per cent to 11 per cent annual growth rate target. However, the annualized rate of growth over the past three months has dropped back to little more than 13 per cent and is likely to show further falls.

A major factor in this fall is the slowdown in company borrowings as the corporate sector continues to destock. In the latest month, bank lending to the private sector rose by £390m.

Although seasonal adjustments for January are particularly difficult, it seems that bank lending to the private sector may now be growing at little more than £300m a month, a third of the rate of increase seen last summer.

With the public sector contributing £394m last month, total domestic credit expansion was £634m, the lowest monthly total for almost a year.

Slightly surprisingly, however, in view of the large trade surpluses recorded recently, the external finance item has remained contractionary. This mean that resident sterling deposits (the bulk of sterling M3) have grown more slowly than domestic credit expansion.

What seems to have happened is that exporters have temporarily been holding their receipts in foreign currency, probably dollars, to take advantage of higher overseas interest rates. This is reflected in the M3 definition of money, which includes resident holdings of foreign currency deposits in the United Kingdom. This measure of money jumped by 1.5 per cent in January.

The money supply figures were taken in the City as a further pointer towards a reduction in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate within the next few weeks.

Even so, the City remains in two minds about medium-term financial prospects. While it is encouraged by the cyclical deceleration in private sector credit demand and the prospects of further falls in the inflation rate, it remains perturbed about the extent to which the Government is having to commit to the nationalized industries and the credibility of any significantly-reduced PSBR forecast for 1981-82.

But there are considerable doubts as to how far the Chancellor can reduce the PSBR next year without the kind of tax increases that might delay any economic upturn.

Financial Editor, page 19
Tables, page 20

Germans move to bolster mark

By Frances Williams

Surprise moves by the German Federal Bank to bolster the Deutsche mark threw foreign exchanges into confusion yesterday.

The bank had been widely expected to raise the key Lombard rate of interest (the rate at which it stands prepared to supply funds to the commercial banks) by a percentage point from its present level of 9 per cent. Instead it has suspended the normal Lombard lending facility altogether for an indefinite period.

In future the bank will decide whether, and to what extent, to satisfy commercial banks' requests for funds at a rate of interest which will vary daily according to market conditions.

Herr Karl Otto Poehl, the Federal Bank president, said the new policies would mean tighter credit and higher short-term interest rates.

But dealers were uncertain yesterday on how large the increases were likely to be.

Nevertheless, the Deutsche mark closed sharply higher against all other currencies within the European monetary system, and gained 5 pfennings on a weaker dollar to finish London trading at DM 2.1375

The German Bank called for repayment today of the DM6,500m (£1,300m) Lombard debt outstanding with the commercial banks. It also lifted restrictions on non-residents acquiring Deutsche mark government securities with maturities of less than a year, which should help attract short-term funds into the German currency.


Interest rates rise: Herr Poehl, president of the West German Federal Bank, left, with Dr Helmut Schlesinger, the bank's vice president, yesterday announcing moves to push up interest rates.

The Lombard debt repayment is unlikely to lead to a sharp rise in money market rates when they reopen today, since the banks have accumulated a cash surplus of between DM80,000m and DM90,000m deposited with the Federal Bank.

The Federal Bank may have been dissuaded from raising Lombard rate by the improved performance of the Deutche-mark. Over the previous two days it has gone up 6 pfennigs against the dollar after plunging by more than 30 pfennigs since the beginning of the year.

There has also been domestic pressure to avoid interest rate rises which might depress economic activity further. Growth in the West German economy has been slowing down over the past year and GNP is forecast to decline in 1981.

By confining interest rates rises to the short-term money markets, the Federal Bank will be hoping that long-term borrowing investment will not be affected.

However, increased short-terms rates will affect the cost of consumer borrowing. This may depress demand in industries such as car manufacturing where consumer credit plays an important role.

Suspension of the Lombard facility will also prevent the anomaly caused by the disparity between Lombard and market rates of interest, which encouraged commercial banks to borrow funds from the Federal Bank to place in the money market at a higher rate.

In a coincident move with the Germans, the Swiss central bank raised its Lombard and discount rates for the second time in a month to 5.5 per cent and 4 per cent respectively.

The Swiss franc strengthened against leading currencies, including the Deutsche mark to close in London at $1.9265 from $1.9950 on Wednesday.

The Dollar was considerably weaker, losing ground on all sides, as domestic and Euro-dollar interest rates eased. President Reagan's measures to boost the American economy contained no surprises, dealers said.

Uncertainty over Reagan plans

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Feb 19

Uncertainty about President Ronald Reagan's economic programme prevailed throughout the financial community today, as brokers and bankers took time to digest the plans and think about the implications.

One securities analyst said: "Phone me again tomorrow, or on Monday. I just don't know yet." That was the common reaction to the large and detailed Reagan programme.

However, on the New York Stock Exchange, the Dow-Jones industrial average closed down 13.74 at 933.36.

Financial market participants are watching to see what the Congress does, because there is no doubt that the President's public spending and taxation cuts are going to be heavily rewritten by the Senate and the House of Representatives. The mood of uncertainty is reinforced by the recognition that so far the authorities in Washington have issued only about one-third of the new policies.

The second instalment comes next week when Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, outlines the money supply targets for the coming year and the steps the Fed will take to make sure it meets those targets.

The final third of the policy programme will be released by the White House on March 10. So far only the broad details of public spending cuts for some 83 programmes have been announced. On March 10, the full budget statement will be issued, covering a further 400 programmes and outlining in detail the levels of government borrowing.

Morgan Guaranty Trust Company today cut its broker loan rate to 18 per cent from 18.5 per cent. Later, the Irving Trust Company undercut this with a broker loan rate of 17.5 per cent. The level of economic activity is declining and it is widely expected to soften further in coming weeks. Loan demands are seen as falling and prompting a decline in short-term interest rates.

Business leaders were guarded in their reactions to the Reagan plans, not willing to talk about individual budget proposals. They feel bound to provide general support to what everyone was calling a "bold" programme. Mr Clifton Garvin, head of the business round table and chairmen of Exxon, said the programme "comes to grips with the problems of inflation, taxation and government regulation . . . the new direction set by the President's message deserves our support."

Meanwhile, on Capitol Hill, Mr David Stockman, budget director, and Mr Donald Regan, treasury secretary, attended the first of many scheduled hearings to sell the new plan to Congress. Mr Stockman said that swift enactment of the budget plan would reduce inflation fears, and produce lower interest rates.

Mr Regan called on Congress to accept the new tax-cutting plan soon, rather than add things to it. He pledged to propose another tax-cutting programme, as soon as the new one is enacted, to deal with tax incentives to savings and better tax treatment for Americans working overseas.

He asserted that there were "startling differences" between the new Reagan programme and the policies Mrs Margaret Thatcher had applied in the United Kingdom. Mr Reagan said he did not want to go into a detailed comparison, but that the White House plan would be discussed with the Prime Minister when she arrives here next week for talks with President Reagan.

High risk strategy, page 19

Energy task force finds prices 'at disadvantage' with Continent

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

British industry's complaints that companies are paying disproportionately more for their energy supplies than their principal European competitors and undermining industry's competitiveness, have been largely endorsed by the energy task force which was set up at the start of the year. Its report will be submitted to next month's meting of the National Economic Development Council.

The report to the meeting chaired by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, will expose the Government to further pressure to take action to alleviate the burden of high prices for oil, electricity and gas on energy-intensive industries.

The task force, whose members include representatives from British Gas, Electricity Council, Department of Energy, National Coal Board, the CBI and TUC, was charged with investigating the growing volume of evidence which had accumulated on the high cost of energy. Its brief was to look specifically at the claims made by the iron and steel, chemicals, paper and board and foundry industries.

Later today the task force will meet to consider a draft of its final report and a further meeting is scheduled later next week.

The draft report, it is understood, states: "In sum our conclusion is that fuel prices to energy intensive users in the United Kingdom have grown out of line with those being charged on the Continent. This represents in some cases a severe competitive disadvantage."

Against the background of the Government's sharp policy switch over the problems faced by the National Coal Board, the report deals in some detail with the price differential which exists for a range of fuels, and has concluded that United Kingdom industrial fuel oil prices have been, and remain, higher than those prevailing in Europe last year.

On the sensitive issue of gas prices where British Gas yesterday confirmed a 25 per cent rise in domestic tariffs this year, the task force has also apparently confirmed the disparity which emerged in individual industry surveys.

The report cites a disparity of between 2p-3p a therm (10 per cent) for interruptible supplies to industrial customers, and a 3p-5p disparity (equivalent to 10-20 per cent) for firm supply contracts between major United Kingdom industrial users and their European counterparts.

Foundry coke prices in the United Kingdom are up to 30 per cent higher than those in Europe as a result of extensive subsidies provided to Continental foundry customers and a similar scale of difference exists on electricity prices.

While the task force is beileved to have established that in England and Wales the price charged to smaller industrial consumers of electricity is more or less in line with those prevailing in Europe, for high load factor customers, particularly in relation to France and Germany, the disparity is between 20-30 per cent.

Tory MPs seek change in Lloyd's draft Bill

By Richard Allen
Insurance Correspondent

Lloyd's, the insurance market backed by private wealth, has come under further pressure from a group of Conservative MPs to make significant changes in its draft Bill to improve self-regulation.

The move comes after Lloyd's failure this week to head off opposition through a compromise formula involving assurances on a number of disputed clauses.

The compromise proposals were put to MPs by Sir Graham Page, Conservative MP for Crosby, Merseyside, who is steering the Bill through Parliament on Lloyd's behalf.

Although his proposals have been welcomed by the Tory criticis as a move in the right direction they have been met by a barrage of demands for additional changes and further-reaching assurances.

Main critics are represented in an informal grouping of around 20 MPs, many of whom are underwriting "names" at Lloyd's. Altogether 55 Conservative MPs and one Labour MP provide security as Lloyd's underwriters.

MP critics are threatening to oppose the Bill when it comes up for debate towards the end of next month if their demands are not met. This action could prevent the Bill passing to committee stage for further consideration and force Lloyd's to redraft important sections and seek fresh approval from its 20,000 members.

The new proposals are contained in a letter to Sir Graham from one of the critics, Mr Richard Needham, Conservative MP for Chippenham.

Among his demands is one that Lloyd's gives a firm assurance that eight rather than six external members (underwriting "names" who do not work at Lloyd's) are represented on the new 26-man ruling Council envisaged by the Bill and that three outside representatives should be nominated rather than approved by the Governor of the Bank of England. He also demands that active brokers represented should be limited to four.

His letter also seeks further assurances regarding Clause II of the Bill, which would have the effect of giving the Council a blanket indemnity against legal action.

Lloyd's has already attempted to placate opposition to this clause by removing it from the Bill's main body into a schedule for implementation by a future bye-law. This would require confirmation by Privy Council and approval by both Houses of Parliament.

But Mr Needham and his colleagues are demanding the immunity provision should not be allowed to return to Parliament until the question of divestment or separation of powers by insurance brokers over managing agencies in the market has been agreed by the full Council.

The critics further call for a stronger provision giving Lloyd's the power to deal effectively with fraudulent behaviour.

Peugeot to invest £10m in Britain

By Edward Townsend

Peugeot-Citroën, which owns Talbot UK, is expected to announce within the next few weeks a £10m investment programme in Britain.

This development comes after Peugeot's decision to close its loss-making car manufacturing plant at Linwood near Glasgow which will result in redundancy for almost 5,000 workers.

The new investment will be at the group's Ryton and Stoke factories at Coventry. The aim is to begin United Kingdom assembly of Peugeot's five-door Horizon model produced exclusively at the company's Poissey plant near Paris.

Mr George Turnbull, chairman of Talbot UK, said in Morocco yesterday during the launch of a new model, that the plan for United Kingdom assembly was "in the final stages of decision".

By assembling Horizons in England Peugeot could claim that the car was British-made and aim for a bigger slice of the lucrative fleet car market. Many British companies insist that their cars should be BL models or United Kingdom made Fords and Vauxhalls.

Talbot's sales executives estimate that if the car was assembled at Ryton, an additional 15,000 sales could be achieved.

PO denied a monopoly on electronic mail

By Patricia Tisdall

The Post Office lost on two counts at the committee stage of the Telecommunications Bill yesterday.

It failed to obtain a monopoly it had been seeking for the handling of "hard copy" produced by electronic mail transmission systems, and will meet new competition from international couriers.

Mr Ron Dearing, the chairman of the Post Office said yesterday he was disappointed that the Corporation had not been given exclusive rights over electronic mail handling. He stressed the importance of electronic mail to the future of the postal service, estimating that it could eventually account for 25 per cent of all mail.

The service expects to make a modest profit this financial year even though it is unlikely to reach the targets set by the Government because of improved productivity.

The decrease in volume estimated over the first nine months at 0.4 per cent is less than the 2 per cent drop which had been forecast. But for the long term future, electronic mail services such as Intelpost are regarded by postal executives as vital if the postal service is to remain self-funding.

Speaking against the amendment which would have given the Post Office a monopoly over the handling of electronic mail, Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, agreed that electronic mail would be important for the future of the postal service. However, the Post Office had had a "huge start" over private electronic mail operators.

If a monopoly were granted to it at this stage it would deter private operators from entering the field and "could potentially damage the development of this extremely important new means of communication".

At the same time he said he recognized the arguments in favour of the amendment and had had a second look at the Government's decision. The committee was evenly divided on the issue, but the chairman's casting vote resulted in the amendment being rejected.

A separate amendment which would give independent private couriers the right to carry letters was passed unanimously without a debate. The amendment moved by two Conservative MPs, Mr Richard Page and Mr John Butcher, inserts a new section into Clause 64 of the Bill exempting letters which are destined for overseas and taken by couriers from the postal monopoly.

Mr Chris Reid, chairman of the Association of International Air Couriers, Services, which represents 18 major operators with 8,000 employees, said yesterday that the exemption was significant and would allow air couriers to operate from the United Kingdom without fear of persecution by the Post Office.

Scramble expected for Aerospace shares

By Philip Robinson

The City's big financial institutions are queueing up ready to pay at least 175p apiece for British Aerospace shares in which dealings start today.

Earlier predictions that initial prices for the 100 million shares would show a small 7p to 10p premium over the 150p offer price are now thought by the market to be too pessimistic.

Conditions for the issue, which was three and a half times oversubscribed, have changed in the past three days. The FT index of Britain's top 30 companies is now just 5.8 points below the 500 barrier.

President Reagan is committed to increase defence spending and the institutions—known to be the last to make up their minds—have an unsatisfied appetite for high technology stocks.

Stockbroking firms were taking buying orders throughout yesterday from both United Kingdom and overseas investors willing to pay between 165p and 185p for a million shares.

Capel-Cure Myers, stockbrokers, have marked the shares a buy at 165p, and it is believed De Zoete & Bevan have issued a private institutional circular saying "buy" up to 185p.

Optimists reckon the price could go to 200p before easing back and the market could turnover at least half the issue.

The market is opening ten minutes early today, at 9.20, in an attempt to achieve an orderly market.

SE halts Euroflame flotation

By Rosemary Unsworth

Euroflame Holdings, the latest applicant to the Unlisted Securities Market, has had its flotation halted by Stock Exchange regulations.

The group, which distributes wood burning stoves and cookers, issued a prospectus for a placing of 1.1 million shares earlier this week. Mr John Viall, chairman, said at a press conference that he would be disappointed if Euroflame made less than £450,000 pretax profit this year, although no profits forecast had formally been made.

The remark was published in several newspapers and the Stock Exchange has demanded that a formal forecast is included in the prospectus.

It told Tring Hall Securities, which was bringing Euroflame to the market and retaining a 55 per cent stake in the group, and Sternberg, Thomas Clarke, stockbrokers, that the information must be made available to all shareholders before the listing can be considered. Dealings were due to start next Wednesday at a placing price of 30p.

The placing will be delayed by at least a month as the accounts have to be verified by an independent auditor and the prospectuses reprinted. This will increase the cost of launching Euroflame by about £3,000. The original cost of the issue was £60,000.

The Stock Exchange said yesterday it was determined that companies coming to market via the USM fulfilled every requirement. "And in this instance we wanted to be sure that the company got it right from day one", a spokesman said.

The placing would have raised £330,000 and put a market capitalization on the group of just over £1m. Last year pretax profits were £278,000 on turnover of £1.57m.

Shrinkage in UK economy

Continued from page 1

finished goods and "work in progress" have all been reduced.

This destocking has meant a sharp reduction in the demand for goods, and output has consequently slumped.

But the fall in output has substantially exceeded the fall in stock levels last year. The result has been that the stock-output ratio of manufacturing industry has soared to unprecedented levels in spite of the record run-down in stock levels.

Another side effect of the recession has been a fall in capital expenditure on things like new buildings, vehicles and plant and machinery. Other government figures just published disclose a fall of 8 per cent last year in manufacturers capital spending.

However, distributive industry increased its capital spending by 5 per cent. For manufacturers, capital spending in the fourth quarter of 1980 was the lowest seen in any quarter for almost four years.

According to recent surveys carried out by the Department of Industry, capital investment in the manufacturing industry in 1981 could be down to its lowest level, in real terms, for nearly two decades. It is expected to be some 15 to 20 per cent lower this year than in 1980.

This survey, which was made public in December, was substantially more gloomy than previous surveys, although some recovery in capital spending was tentatively thought to be likely in 1982. The drop in capital spending this year could seriously exacerbate the recession.

Tables, page 20

Living in Britain dearer than home for most expatriate executives

Foreigners count the cost of a UK posting

Britain is now one of the most expensive countries in the world for expatriate executives, and the days when it was the bargain basement shopping centre for Europe are long gone.

This is one of the conclusions of a survey of international living costs issued on behalf of a consortium of 500 multinational companies yesterday.

Executives whose home base is in any other European country would find Britain vastly more expensive than at home. "For other Europeans, Britain is more expensive than half the world", the survey says.

But a Briton working abroad would find living costs lower than at home in two out of three countries.

Among the few European countries where a Briton would consider living costs high are France and Italy. Also expensive are Kuwait, Indonesia and Japan, with Nigeria at the top of the "high price" league table for the countries surveyed.

The cost of food in Nigeria is much higher than in most other countries except Japan, where it is also expensive. The survey took into account motoring and car purchase costs; domestic staff, housing and utilities expenses; schools for expatriate children and clubs for expatriates and their families.

Expatriates have considerable advantages in countries where they have access to special "hard currency" shops, the survey says. This is most noticeable in the Communist block. In fact, Peking is the cheapest place of all for Western executives, with an index of 70 on the United Kingdom base of 100.

In other countries, the scarcity of necessities basic to an executive lifestyle can send the index through the roof. In the case of Uganda, the index stands at 700, and not surprisingly expatriates make regular shopping trips to Kenya.

The information was gathered from 1,100 questionnaires returned towards the end of last year by expatriates working in 146 countries. It is compiled by Employment Conditions Abroad which operates on behalf of 500 member companies to act as a central and confidential clearing house for information concerning the employment of expatriates throughout the world.

Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

NCB chief anxious to reach agreement with generating board

Tight limit sought on coal imports

Reaffirmation by Mr David Howell, the Energy Secretary, of the Government's intention to see how far it can go to meet the aspiration of the miners and the National Coal Board in reducing the level of coal imports will be seen by the NCB and miners' leaders as a big concession to be exploited to the full.

In the wake of the Government's dramatic about-turn in the face of a threatened miners' strike, Sir Derek Ezra, NCB chairman, underlined the board's anxiety to reach some solution to the problem of coal imports by, in the main, the Central Electricity Generating Board and the British Steel Corporation.

At a time when the board's own stockyards and those of its customers are full, imports have become an embarrassing and controversial issue.

In advance of the NCB's mine closure announcements, the Department of Energy was careful to point out earlier this month that the overall level of coal imports, principally from Australia and the United States, this year were expected to fall back by about 2 million tonnes on the 7.5 million tonnes of foreign coal shipped into power stations and steelworks last year.

At the discussion next week between Mr Howell, the NCB and the National Union of Mineworkers, there will be an attempt to thrash out a formula which will secure the target of cutting those imports to what in the vernacular is now to be known as the "irreducible minimum". Translated, that is likely to mean a level of about 1 million tonnes.

Much of the "minimum" looks like being left to the British Steel Corporation, which imports premium grades of coking coal principally for its South Wales works and for its Scottish steelmaking operation at Ravenscraig with some other imported coking coal going to furnaces on Teesside.

In the financial year ending next month BSC planned to import about 2.3 million tonnes with about 4.2 million tonnes from the NCB (although the final domestic figure could reach 4.5 million tonnes). The overall consumption of coking coal by the BSC has been cut by the reduced demand for steel. BSC began importing coal in 1971, mostly for quality reasons.

The NCB was unable to provide sufficient quantities of the medium volatile coking coals required for blending to meet the increasingly exacting requirements for modern blast furnaces. It has also benefited from fluctuation in exchange rates, which have made imported coal cheaper.

But the prime reason for the BSC's imports is acknowledged by Sir Derek, who last year agreed to a special deal with the BSC under which the corporation agreed to buy competively-priced NCB coal in return for the NCB buying BSC steel and steel products.

Steam coal imports shipped under contract to the CEGB, principally to Thameside power stations and through port facilities at Birkenhead, look like being the main targets for the reduction. But the CEGB's imports, which in the current financial year were scheduled to rise to a level of about 5 million tonnes, will in fact be down on the forecast levels to between 3.5 million and 4 million tonnes, with the expectation that next year its shipments from Australia and the United States will have fallen to about 2 million tonnes.

It too negotiated a deal with the NCB under which it committed itself to taking 75 million tonnes annually over five years from the NCB, and that agreement runs out in 1984. It was conditional on the price of the domestically produced coal sold to the board not rising above the rate of increase in the retail price index.

But the CEGB is no stranger to the tribulations of the coal industry and the sensitive issue of imports.

The NCB and the CEGB were partners in a deal two and a half years ago masterminded by Mr Howell's predecessor, Mr Anthony Benn, under which the Government provided £17m to the NCB so that its coal was as competitively priced as imported coal or oil. In return the CEGB burned an additional 3 million tonnes of domestically produced coal in the winter of 1978-79 and sold off the equivalent tonnage of imported coal which was awaiting shipment from foreign ports.

It maintained the Government's commitment to the future of the coal industry, but whether Mr Howell is prepared to be as generous as his predecessor in his anxiety to be realistic and flexible remains to be seen.

Peter Hill



EEC fears over steel exports to America

The European Economic Community has told the United States of its serious concern about the impact on European steel exports of the 4.4 per cent rise in the minimum price for foreign steel which the Americans are to impose from March 1.

The European Commission has asked the Americans for more information on how the increase in the so-called "trigger price" will affect different categories of steel products.

Commission sources said they were "very preoccupied" by the trend of EEC steel exports to the United States, which have declined from 7.4 million tonnes in 1978 to 3.9 million tonnes last year.

The American import price rise is intended to underpin *increases in the domestic price* of steel which go into effect next month. However, the Americans say that foreign steel priced at the legal minimum will still be cheaper and hence more competitive than the list price of domestic steel.

Arab banks' loan

A management group consisting of Kuwait Foreign Trading Contracting and Investment Company, Arab Bank Corporation, Al Saudi Banque, Al Bahrain Arab African Bank, Gulf International Bank and Industrial Bank of Kuwait is to market a $117m (about £50m) seven year loan for four Yugoslav banks.

EEC oil consumption

The European Commission has said that the goal of reducing oil consumption in the Community to 40 per cent of total energy use by 1990 is in doubt. Fears are that oil imports at the beginning of the next decade could exceed earlier estimates by one million barrels a day.

US competitiveness

American industry appears to be losing its ability to compete effectively with other countries—even in some lines of manufactured goods such as pharmaceuticals, computers, and aircraft, where the United States has been a strong exporter—*Fortune* Magazine reports.

£10m contract loss

A decision to provide £10.1m to cover losses on a contract to build a road in Sudan near the Ethiopian border left Marchwiel, the Alfred McAlpine, construction group, with pretax profits of only £654,000 against £13.3m in the year to last October.

Montedison deal

Montedison SA, Italy's second largest private company, has reached agreement with trade unions on ending a month-long dispute over the company's plans to dismiss some 8,000 of its 45,000 chemical workers.

Low duty protest

The European chemical producers' association has said it is "astonished" at the low level of a 4 per cent provisional antidumping duty on United States styrene imports. The association is standing by its original claim of a 26 per cent dumping margin.

Export index falls

The Japanese export goods price index in January fell 1.9 per cent from the year-earlier month to 101.7 (1975 = 100). The January index represented a 1.2 per cent drop from December, mainly because of the yen's general appreciation in the month.

Steelmen to strike

Finsider, Italy's state-owned steel group, has told the metalworkers' union that it will be unable to pay more than 70 per cent of monthly wages at the end of February. In protest the union has announced a 24-hour strike.

Plant cancellation

Poland has decided to postpone for two years construction of a polyester plant worth 25,000m yen (about £53m) it was planning with Japanese assistance.

Steel deliveries

Union Steel Corporation of South Africa said it expects to maintain its domestic steel deliveries over the next nine months, with local economic conditions seen remaining favourable.

Petrodollars recycling

Japan's Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund will increase low interest loans to non-oil-producing countries to help to recycle petrodollars, partly to fill the vacuum created by America's plan to cut United States foreign aid by 26 per cent.

VWs for Yugoslavia

Volkswagen plans to start production of a pick-up truck in Yugoslavia next year, based on the Golf car.

Aerospace industry sets £1,775m sales record

By Our Air Correspondent

Exports by the British aerospace industry rose to a record £1.775m during 1980. This was £505m, or 39.8 per cent more than in the previous year, according to figures published yesterday by the Society of British Aerospace Companies (SBAC).

The SBAC said: "This performance was the climax of a *decade of steady achievement* for the export drive of the industry, during which new records were set each year from the figure for 1970 of only £277m. The £505m leap in 1980 eclipsed by far the progress of any previous year."

Deliveries of aircraft and parts during 1980 totalled £887m, an increase of £299m over 1979; engines and parts were worth £739m (up £188m) and aeronautical instruments worth £86m (up £13m).

Leading export markets were the United States, with £303m worth of engines and parts (up £122m on 1979), and West Germany, with aircraft parts worth £180m.

During December, the industry exported £157m worth of goods, an increase of £46m, or 42 per cent, on the same month *of 1979. The largest totals* within that figure were, engines and parts worth £28m to the United States, and engines and parts worth £12m to West Germany.

A Boeing 757 in Monarch colours, equipped with Rolls-Royce engines.

Monarch picks Rolls-Royce jets

By Arthur Reed

Rolls-Royce has launched the latest version of its RB211 jet engine with an order worth £25m from the Luton-based independent airline Monarch.

Monarch said yesterday it is to buy four 228-seater Boeing 757 airliners for its package *holiday operations. The aircraft*, the first two of which will be delivered in 1984, will have the 211-535E engine initially, but will be refitted with the 211-535E4 when it becomes available in 1985.

Offering fuel savings of up *to 10 per cent over the 535E*, the E4 is the engine which Rolls-Royce tried unsuccessfully to sell to the big United States airlines Delta and American. Both preferred to buy the new Pratt and Whitney 2037 engine.

After losing those contracts, Lord McFadzean, chairman of Rolls-Royce, alleged that Pratt and Whitney had promised to compensate American Airlines for additional fuel used while it waited for its 2037s.

Yesterday, Mr Alan Snudden, managing director of Monarch, was asked whether the American engine company had been in competition with Rolls-Royce and had offered him a similar deal.

"*I could not go out of* the door without falling over them", he said. "They were offering two things. Remembering that their engine will not be available until 1985, they would provide assistance to carry through to then, while they were willing to give us certain guarantees regarding fuel consumption. We passed this to Rolls-Royce, and they matched it."

Mr Snudden said that the Rolls-Royce 535E4 was a derivative engine of the RB211, while the Pratt and Whitney *2037 contained a lot of new* technology, some of which had to be proved. "We felt that Pratt and Whitney would produce a good engine, and get it right, but we also felt there was an *element of risk*.

"At Derby we could see seven engines doing test runs. When we went to East Hartford, Connecticut, these things were not available to us, and that was quite an influence on our decision."

Asked how the deal for the 757s would be financed, Mr Snudden said arrangements had not yet been completed, but it could be a loan or lease, or a mixture of the two. There was *no possibility* of a subsidised rate of interest from the Government, as in the case of the purchase of Airbuses by Laker and British Caledonian, nor would there be "soft loans" for the airframes from the Export-Import Bank.

Monarch is to buy two further Boeing 737 airliners to add to the two already in its fleet. Its *total outlay on new equipment* will be in excess of £65m. The airline carries about 1,250,000 passengers on holidays each year.

TUC appeal on training boards

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

The TUC appealed to the Government yesterday not to scrap the industrial training boards. Mr Ken Graham, assistant general secretary, said: "It would be an act of folly in 1981 to dismantle industry-wide training arrangements and machinery devised and developed with such care in the 1960s and 1970s".

Mr Graham was speaking at a conference and exhibition on training for young people organized jointly by the 23 training boards. He contended that the Manpower Services Commission, the ITBs and other joint training bodies were "absolutely essential".

The Employment and Training Bill which received its second reading in Parliament last month will give the Gov*ernment powers to* wind up boards and also to transfer the operating costs from the Treasury to Industry.

Organizations representing employers, including the Confederation of British Industry, have said that industry is not prepared to pay extra for the boards.

Mr Graham gave warning yesterday that the demise of the boards would lead to Britain falling even further behind its main industrial competitors who have highly-developed statutory training systems supported by huge resources. He said a creditable training strategy for Britain could not be based on a return to a voluntary system.

More road contracts for private engineers

By John Young
Planning Reporter

Nearly four-fifths of trunk road work design in Britain would in future be carried out by private engineering consultants, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, said last night.

At present, consulting engineers were making a net contribution of some £400m a year to the balance of payments through their overseas work, he said. Yet at home, the responsibility for designing trunk roads had been overwhelmingly in the public sector.

"It does not make sense to divide our efforts in this way," he added. "The consultants who win business abroad must have the assurance of a substantial home base."

Mr Fowler's comments formed part of a wide-ranging affirmation of the Government's intention to introduce as much private capital as possible into the state-owned transport industries.

He cited as examples Sealink and British Transport Hotels, both of which had taken second place to the needs of main British Rail business. As a result, they had lacked investment and proper management attention.

"What Government, faced with urgent public spending needs, is going to make luxury hotels one of their first priorities?" he asked. "Common sense points to private investment."

There were other cases, such as that of the National Freight Corporation, where the Government had no natural role, and where nothing was achieved by government ownership and control.

Amendment defeated: Fears that the disposal of British Rail's ferries and hotels to private enterprise might result in greater private monopoly, and less choice for the customer were voiced by Labour MPs in the Commons standing committee on the Transport Bill yesterday (Gordon Wellman, Parliamentary Staff, writes).

They pressed to a division an amendment to prevent any company acquiring more than 5 per cent holding in a BR subsidiary, but were defeated by 11 votes to 8.

Mr Albert Booth, chief Opposition transport spokesman, protested that under the Bill Mr Fowler could direct British Rail to sell off its subsidiary interests to its main competitors.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Under Secretary for Transport, assured him that the Government was also against private monopoly and had strengthened the monopoly legislation. The Secretary of State had secured agreement with the chairman of the BR board to transfer a controlling interest in the four main subsidiaries—Sealink, Seaspeed, the railway hotels and BR's property group—to the private sector.

The Government remained confident the board would carry out the agreement but the Secretary of State must reserve to himself powers of direction to enable the policy to be put into effect.

Setback for exports is forecast

By Derek Harris,
Commercial Editor

The volume of United Kingdom exports, up 2 per cent last year, is likely to be down 3 per cent this year, the British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB) forecast yesterday. Continuing after-effects of Britain's lesser competitiveness *in earlier years is* thought to be the main factor.

The forecast is made despite growth expected in markets which have hitherto been strong ones for British goods. Markets such as those of the oil-producing countries are in this category, where higher-than-average growth rates are expected.

But growth in world trade generally is expected to be "very low" this year and lower than the small increases seen in 1980.

The mixture of problems facing British exporters—increased domestic costs, relatively low productivity gains, high interest rates and a strong pound—faced many companies with "the unenviable choice between losing export turnover or maintaining it with an inadequate profit margin," Lord Limerick, BOTB chairman, said. He could see no change coming short-term in such external factors.

There was a slackening of export activity last year with trade fairs, missions and other promotions with which BOTB is *involved. Overseas exhibitions* declined to 287 from 320 the previous year and missions to 17 from 21.

£1.5m technology sales drive in America planned

By Bill Johnstone

The Department of Industry, British Telecom and Logica, the computer software house, have formed a pilot consortium to sell British Videotext and teletext technology in the United States.

The venture will be called British Videotext and Teletext (BVT) and will initially operate for a two-year period with a *budget of £1.5m.*

Each partner has contributed £500,000 and the aim will be to present a uniform marketing front in America.

British Telecom's Prestel technology, and the teletext expertise of the BBC's Ceefax service and ITV's Oracle will be sold by BVT, along with associated computer software designed by Logica.

Initiative has come from the Department of Industry. Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, said that the technologies represent a key growth area in the British economy.

The minister added: "They are important technical developments in which Britain now leads the world and they must be promoted because of the commercial and industrial benefits which can fall to Britain".

The new group will work from New York and will be closely associated with Logica Inc.

Last month all of the interested parties in the information technology industry met in London to formulate a policy which would assist in the promotion of Prestel and the Oracle and Ceefax services.

Incorporated partnership plan to aid companies

By Bryan Appleyard

A new type of business which can help small companies and relieve the workload of Companies House, is proposed by the Government in a Green Paper published yesterday.

Based on an idea advanced by Professor L. C. B. Gower, an adviser to the Department of Trade, the proposal would create an incorporated partnership with limited liability.

This would free new ventures of the necessity to comply with elaborate regulations.

Mr Reginald Eyre, the Under Secretary of State for Trade, said the Companies Acts imposed burdens which "may be inappropriate on some small firms, *particularly* in relation to their internal organization and the disclosure of their affairs".

The department also is concerned at the heavy overloading registration requirements is placing on Companies House. Some 330,000 companies are in default on the registering of their accounts out of the total of 800,000 active companies.

Companies House has started proceedings over 14,000 of them and some 10,000 letters were sent out two weeks ago to defaulting companies.

Professor Gower's scheme would involve the creation of partners who were managers and owners of companies yet with limited liability.

It would provide both the continuity and legal "personality" which partnerships do *not now* necessarily have, while avoiding the paraphernalia of annual meetings and accounts for the traditional companies.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Economic progress through unity

From Mr J. A. Wedgwood

Sir, Although we have become accustomed to the differences which divide the nation in political terms, there must be growing concern at the increasing tendency to create divisions in occupational terms, namely, between those who are employed in the private sector and those in the public sector. I wonder whether the nation's economic recovery will be aided by repeated accentuation of this distinction.

It seems to me that one of the more insidious effects this creates is the defensive posture that people feel obliged to adopt, instead of getting on with the business of doing the job and doing it better. As it is the current vogue to blame most of the nation's ills on the performance of the public sector, it is, I suppose, natural that your readers may feel that, as chairman of a public trading corporation, I am succumbing to this temptation of defensiveness. This is not my purpose, and I can perhaps briefly dispose of this aspect by acknowledging that, whilst I believe that my board is playing its part in terms of productivity and other fields of endeavour, we have some way to go yet and are always seeking to do better.

No, my plea is for a sense of joint purpose and mutual understanding between both sectors in seeking those improvements in performance across the field which are essential to the nation's recovery. *Leaving aside whether it is* possible that a more sympathetic joint approach to this problem could receive encouragement in political circles, I suggest that the kind of action which could be intensified at professional and working level might include the following:

1. Deliberate steps by employers and employees, both through the CBI and the TUC and otherwise, to promote a fuller interchange of information and experience of best practices in each sector.
2. Similar steps by the professional institutions, who are in a good position to secure a wider understanding amongst professional people of better ways of doing things in the various areas of employment.
3. A greater emphasis throughout the educational system of the significance and importance of the different sectors of the national economy.
4. A conscious effort by public *speakers and by the media* to base comment on facts, to search out the best as well as the worst, and to foster a better public understanding of achievement and problems in differen areas of employment.
5. The promotion of close understanding thorugh initi tives taken by individua businesses and services. Th joint meetings which som of us arrange from time time to discuss the produc and services we offer cou also be used for getting know about the way we ea *do things.* If we open th windows a little wider, w may find that as much th is valuable will enter as w escape.

I believe that the pursuit such measures could help concentrate attention on o interdependence rather th our differences, and on th positive contribution which needed from everyone to ad to the nation's ability to crea more wealth of all kinds. the same time, we need revive the sense of dignity and *respect for, all* essen work undertaken with di gence, integrity and a spirit service. And let us acknowled enterprise wherever it is to found.

JOHN WEDGWOOD,
Chairman,
Southern Electricity,
Southern Electricity House,
Littlewick Green,
Maidenhead,
Berkshire, SL6 3QB.

Attitudes to language

From Professor M. J. C. Surrey

Sir, Mr Peter Jay's Humpty Dumpty-like attitude to words and their meanings has ceased to be an in-joke and is becoming a serious obstacle to the discussion of economic policy. His entire column (January 16) is premised on the *definition* of an expansionary fiscal policy as "inflationary". His assertion that more inflation does not necessarily mean less unemployment is very likely true, but it is highly contentious to suggest that as a matter of logic it *follows that a fiscal stimulus to* the economy will not lower unemployment.

No matter how often its supposed logical truth is asserted, the proposition that reflation is the same thing as inflation remains an empirical one. Mr Jay's attitude to the statistical evidence is as cavalier as his attitude to language: in his column of January 5 he proposed the existence of an unexplained lag of three to five years between a change in monetary policy and a change in the rate of inflation. In terms of unemployment, he suggested that "we" (ie "they") "are getting where we basically deserve to be". These assertions were challenged in your letters columns by Professors Godley and Nield but no explanation was forthcoming.

It must be supposed that Mr Jay's column is meant to contribute to the discussion of economic policy: it is regrettable that his unsubstantiated dicta tend rather to stifle it. *Pace* another of Lewis Carroll's characters, "what I tell you three times" is still not necessarily true.

Yours faithfully,
M. J. C. SURREY,
Professor of Economics,
School of Economic Studies,
The University of Leeds,
Leeds, LS2 9JT.
February 16.

Intelligence of machines

From Mr David Torvell

Sir, Kenneth Owen's article on machine intelligence (February 9) was a most interesting survey of work which is not often reported outside specialist journals.

I imply no criticism of his carefully accurate account, or of the work described, in venturing to suggest that some non-specialist readers may be tempted to believe that machines are within a measurable distance of something resembling human intelligence. In fact, current machine intelligence and what is currently known of human intelligence differ in complexity of organization by many orders of magnitude.

A four-year-old may be much impressed by a book which, after his name has been written in it, begins: "Hullo, Jimmy." Many computer demonstrations begin with a similarly transparent greeting. When genuinely difficult problems are under attack, however, it may be less apparent that such phrases as "I am considering the possibility of" (a lead/zinc deposit) are of the "Hullo, Jimmy" type.

I regard the blurring of genuine achievement by such *cosmetic devices as regrettable.* As one sometimes involved in picking up the pieces of failed computer systems I am concerned that an insufficiently critical belief in their capacities often subordinates real to imaginary potential advantages and *leads to waste and disappointment.*

I wish the machine intelligence researchers well, but their current machines are as distant from true intelligence as a flint axe is from Concorde. Superstitious belief is dan*gerous in this as in other areas.*

Yours faithfully,
DAVID TORVELL,
3 Elmwood Court,
Pershore Road,
Birmingham, B5 7PB.

Restricted sugar choice

From Mrs A. H. Gaddum

Sir, Much has been written in the past few weeks about Common Market sugar beet quotas but in all the discussions I have read, the customer has never been mentioned.

For the past few years I have made large amounts of marmalade and therefore do use a lot of sugar. Many batches of the marmalade did not set and it was quite a while before I realized that this invariably happened with beet sugar.

As a result, I have used cane sugar ever since and the problem is solved. However, it is proving difficult to obtain this type of sugar. As Tate & Lyle are faced with the possible closure of their Liverpool factory, this seems all the more sad.

In any supermarket a housewife can buy many brands of detergents, pet foods, butter, etc, but I cannot recall an instance in which I have ever seen more than one type of granulated sugar.

Before it is too late, I should like to urge Mr Peter Walker and others in his Ministry to watch very closely the sugar beet quotas for the next few *years so that it is still possible* to obtain the sugar of one's choice.

Yours faithfully,
HILDA GADDUM,
Lane Ends House,
Sutton,
Near Macclesfield,
Cheshire.

Peanut power results

From Mr R. Jeff

Sir, During the last war, as member of an agency hou controlling, among other co cerns, a large number of gardens, when it seemed likel at one stage, that the Japane would penetrate into India a would thus cut off our suppl of fuel oil I decided to inves *gate the possibility of runni* our oil engines on vegetable i.e., peanut oil.

In the first instance, tried out various proportions a mix with the usual fuel The trials were satisfactory we were able to go on to *per cent peanut oil with exc* lent results.

I then advised the repres tatives of various oil eng makers who, I am afraid, p poohed the idea.

I then produced indicat diagrams which these *representatives could not fa* in any way, nor did the engi foul up any more than with normal oil.

Luckily, the invasion ne occurred and we were not continue with what was an pensive way of provid *motive power. Ultimately,* disposed of our stock of pea oil to our labour forces were the final beneficiaries.

I have been somewhat wry amused to read of the resear into the use of vegetable oil cited as a breakthrough.

There is nothing new und the sun!

Yours faithfully,
R. JEFF,
"Holcroft",
203 London Road North,
Merstham,
Surrey, RH1 3BN.
February 11.

Access to sleepe seats on aircraf

From Mr Rowland Cobbold

Sir, I was most concerned read Mr Morgan's letter Business News today (Febr 18). It is certainly not our in tion to try to hide the fact we have sleeper seats fitte all our 747 aircraft.

We have now fitted seats throughout the first compartment including upstairs lounge, which m that we have 35 seats avail on each departure to Ba and Hongkong. We do charge any surcharge over above the first class fare access to these seats.

Yours faithfully,
ROWLAND COBBOLD,
Marketing Manager Europ
Cathay Pacific Airways,
123 Pall Mall,
London, SW1Y 5EA.
February 18.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Credibility gap for the dollar

As President Reagan moves boldly to give new lease of life to the United States economy, there is no need to be too cynical. But for United Kingdom observers who have seen our own aspirations at supply-side economics and medium-term financial planning move off to so dramatically bad a start, it is hard to be otherwise.

Even before the political problems in pushing the plan through are faced, the numbers put forward by the Reagan Administration for future GNP growth, for a steadily diminishing Federal deficit and for falling inflation strain credibility. Suffice it to say for the moment that the implied forecast of nominal GDP growth of some 12 per cent both this year and next remains hard to reconcile with the Federal Reserve's current-year aim of keeping monetary growth at less than half that rate.

The only sensible conclusion to be drawn from this is that, on average, dollar interest rates look likely to remain high for the foreseeable future. But to say that this is necessarily bullish for the dollar is altogether more problematical. As expected, the Bundesbank moved yesterday to tighten German interest rates and reduce the recent scope for the German banks to provide the funds used to speculate against the Deutschemark.

How much stability that will lend to the dollar-Deutschemark exchange rate remains to be seen. The obviously vulnerable currency is, of course, sterling. Yesterday's money supply figures, particularly the further moderation in private sector credit demand, add strength to the case for an early 2 point cut in MLR despite the poor PSBR figures.

But even sterling's prospects are not that easy to judge at this stage. Short-term, it would seem that a good part of our surplus earnings on the current account of the balance of payments have recently been held in dollar deposits: these will probably have to be moved back into sterling as and when companies require the funds for domestic use. On the other hand, the Budget comes closer and doubts that the Government will do very much better in financial terms next year inevitably linger as more and more funds are committed to the nationalized industries.

of registration and disclosure is clearly buckling under the strain of the rate of new company formation. Only a substantial—and politically unpalatable—expansion of the Companies' House staff could have any impact on the number of companies defaulting on the disclosure requirements.

So in very tentatively proposing a new form of incorporated partnership with limited liability as a means of lifting the burdens of successive companies acts from small companies, the Government is evidently after two birds with the same stone.

In terms of helping small companies—the politically attractive bird—it seems fair enough. The "incorporated limited firm" exists in various forms in most other European countries and would, with adequate safeguards for creditors, provide a route to limited liability without most of the procedural elaborations.

Yet as a real step towards revitalizing small business it can hardly be taken too seriously. It would be a very feeble enterprise indeed which required this legal shove to get it off the ground. The real inhibitors of small business are economic and institutional, the danger is that too much weight may be given to these bureaucratic ones.

● *Associated Fisheries has spent the last five years busily reducing its fishing activities to the extent that its on-shore activities now account for about three-quarters of capital employed. But the trawling fleet is still proving a drain and heavy trading losses there as well as in fish processing have knocked the recovery, which seemed to be underway, smartly on the head.*

A return to losses in the second half of the year to last September has eroded all but £5,000 of the £638,000, pretax profit earned in the first half and the outturn, which included £296,000 of government grants compares with profits of £2.19m the previous year.

Doubled interest charges of £534,000 and £664,000 redundancy costs were partly to blame but the extent of the downturn in fishing and fish processing can be gauged from the fact that the group's other activities which accounted for all of the previous year's profit, have not done too badly.

More than anything Associated needs the continuing impasse over a common fisheries policy in the European Community to be resolved. In the meantime, the recession is biting harder although the group was back in profit in the first four months of 1980-81 and there was a substantial drop in year-end borrowings because of ship sales and working capital cuts.

So the shares, down 5p at 48p, and yielding 3 per cent remain a play on the substantial asset-backing and the 38.4 per cent stake held by Eastern Produce.

Sime Darby
Diversification benefits

With interim profits after tax and minorities up by 18 per cent to M$63.6m, Sime Darby has again demonstrated the soundness of its diverse interests in one of the world's strongest regional economies. Although pretax tax profits in fact fell slightly to M$137m despite the 12.3 per cent increase in turnover to M$1,247m, capital spending helped to reduce taxes, so producing the higher after-tax figure.

The strong point was undoubtedly Tractors Malaysia, which contributed M$50.2m pretax profits, compared with M$37.9m last time round. Tractor's Caterpillar franchise has pulled in contracting business as infrastructure development has gone ahead under Malaysia's Fourth Plan.

Logging was not so good, but even here it seems that business in Sarawak held up well. Tractors' success is important since Sime has been trying to diversify into industry and engineering away from its traditional plantations base. Now Tractors is exploiting that success by making a one-eight rights issue.

If higher palm oil prices help plantations recover from their first-half drop, and if Tractors maintains its progress, Sime should at least equal last year's M$256m pretax and could well exceed it. That would give earnings per share of between 22 and 23 cents, and the dividend should be maintained at 13 cents.

But the real excitement for shareholders is in what the company intends to do with the proceeds from the Anoy Canning sale. A major takeover could be politically difficult so Sime may just take advantage of high interest rates, but there is no doubt that a sizable acquisition would give earnings a distinct fillip.

The bureaucratic imperatives have probably proved as powerful as the economic ones in the Government's decision to resurrect the debate over the necessity for a new form of incorporation with the Department of Trade's Green Paper. The present system

Marchwiel
Sudan losses

Bears of Marchwiel, were caught out yesterday by the decision to keep the total gross dividend at 8.58p; and by the appearance of a tiny £654,000 profit even after providing £10.1m to cover losses on the long-running contract to build a road in the Sudan. Just as important, the £10.1m should be the end of contract because it expires in May.

With a bit of luck, it could be that Marchwiel will find that it has overprovided, though, this is the main reason why the group hopes for "very substantial increases in profits" this year. But the shares after yesterday's 7p rise to 96p are still yielding nearly 9 per cent, one of the highest returns in the construction list.

Meanwhile, business remains tough. In turnover terms, Marchwiel is still largely a United Kingdom business; and it is also the group's misfortune to have become so dependent on public work, but this is less than before.

The group has outstanding orders of around £200m, and though it has recently won four useful domestic orders, signs of sustained recovery are faint. So the shares depend as much as anything on Marchwiel's strong balance sheet.

Net assets a share are 164p; and cash and short-term investments are now around £16m against £20m the year before and a market capitalization of £31m. Diversification and North Sea oil may come to something but the shares may pause for a bit on the view that the dividend is unlikely to be raised next time.

Frank Vogl

Mr Reagan's high risk strategy

'America's free-wheeling tycoons of a century ago would have cheered wildly on Wednesday night as the President told Congress he plans to cut spending, taxes and governmental regulation'

Washington

The walls of the twisting corridor between the Oval Office and the staff dining room in the west wing of the White House are now covered with some fifty colour photographs of Ronald Reagan, running, talking, waving, hand-shaking and horse riding.

The man of action, the President of the United States, made his first speech to a joint session of the Congress on Wednesday night and true to form the sparks were flying.

The President has embarked upon a high risk strategy. Even minor miscalculations can lead the nation into far rougher economic waters. The odds on the new programme generating more inflation, rather than less, are high.

The programme has been presented with force and confidence, which given the enormity of the requests, might best be ascribed to simple innocence about running America. The Reagan team, after all, has been in power for less than four weeks.

The President is asking nothing less than that Americans turn from lavish credit card consumption to savings, that Congressmen hurl aside big spending habits formed over decades and become misers, that the Federal Reserve Board embrace rigid monetarism, and that the federal bureaucracy works overtime to get rid of Civil Service jobs.

Mr Reagan is trying good old fashioned capitalism which, thanks to his public relations assistants, is called "supply-side" economics. America's free-wheeling tycoons of a century ago would have cheered wildly on Wednesday night as the President told Congress he plans to cut spending, cut taxes and cut governmental regulation.

Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Fed, has warned in recent months that public spending cuts must come before tax cuts and he asserted that big tax cuts could be inflationary. President Carter took the same stance. Mr Reagan has ignored the advice and is not making his big tax reductions contingent on spending cuts, but pushing them through rapidly. His plans envisage bigger budget deficits than those proposed by his predecessor, but he claims his scheme will halve inflation in four years.

To be specific, the President plans to cut government spending as a percentage of the gross national product over four years from 23 per cent to 19 per cent, while at the same time maintaining social security rises and sharply boosting defence expenditure. To do this the President proposes to eliminate or drastically cut almost every domestic spending programme other than the most basic income support ones.

For example, if the Reagan plan goes through hundreds of thousands of unemployed car workers in Detroit will find themselves without unemployment benefits because they have already been jobless for more than six months. The social consequences of this for Detroit could be grave, but the White House says not to worry, because its plans will produce a car buying boom in America soon.

On the spending front, in fact, the President is asking the Congress to abolish wholesale many of the agencies and programmes that the Congress has built-up over the past 15 years. Total spending cuts for the next fiscal year are set at over $40,000m (£17,580m). Prudent forecasts would suggest the Congress will not approve even half these reductions.

As for taxation, the President is putting into practice his firm conviction that wealthy Americans are taxed too much. Cuts of 30 per cent for everyone, irrespective of whether earnings are $15,000 a year or $150,000 are proposed for the next 3½ years. Mr Robert Byrd, the Senate's minority leader, has already denounced this plan as equitable and it is just possible that the Congress will widen the tax cuts by giving more to lower and middle income earners.

The White House tax plan means a cut in revenues in the next fiscal year of $53,900m, or some $12,000m more than the saving from spending cuts. The plan envisages a $45,000m deficit in the budget next year, which is $17,000m greater than Jimmy Carter's budget proposal. Moreover, the new deficit estimate is based on the assumption that inflation will fall to around 8 per cent next year (from 11.1 per cent) and real economic growth will quadruple to more than 4 per cent.

The Reagan budget amounts to more stimulus for the over-inflated economy than the Carter budget did and if Congress fails to make all the spending cuts requested and adds to the tax cuts (by widening their scope) then the level of stimulus will be far, far greater. To reach the planned reductions in the budget deficits in 1983 and 1984 the President will have to go back to Congress for more spending cuts totalling over $30,000m.

A key element in the President's plan is firm monetary policies. The Fed has been told to ignore short-term interest rate changes and focus solely on long-term money supply objectives. It has been told by the White House to halve the rate of money supply growth in a consistent fashion over the next four years.

The Fed's task will be much harder if the budget deficit increases, rather than falls. The White House says the Fed will be aided as much of the tax cuts will move into savings and these savings, rather than new credit supply, will finance the budget dificits. The Fed is unlikely to bank on this.

Recent experience has shown that the Fed's money stock control skills leave much to be desired. One is tempted to suggest that the President has taken an overdose of wishful thinking about the Fed's role.

Some modest assistance will come to the Fed as the Administration seeks to cut off budget credit programmes by government agencies. Such cuts are set at $5,700m for next year and details of bigger cuts for future years will be released along with all the fine print of the new budget on March 10.

The fourth prong of the Reagan strategy, alongside spending, taxation and money, is reducing governmental regulation. Many United States regulatory agencies have taken 50 years to develop. They represent powerful lobbies, are backed by powerful Congressmen and are supported by legions of civil servants. Dramatic cuts in government regulation of business may be desired, but no experienced Washington hand is likely to suggest that the new Administration will have much success here.

Clearly if the budget deficit rises, rather than falls and money supply grows more rapidly than Ronald Reagan desires and governmental regulation abounds as before, then inflation will rise, not fall. But the White House insists, of course, that all elements of its programme will be implemented.

The Administration says that cuts in spending and tighter money policies will reduce fears of future inflation and this itself will lead to interest rate reductions and a surge in savings and investments. The investment boom will be strengthened by the new business tax cuts. As plant and equipment spending rise in the private sector so productivity gains will be seen, thus raising expectations of a more stable economy. This in turn will reduce interest rates still further, encouraging still more private sector savings and investments.

This is the simple logic of the architects of the new programme. Their forecasts of a new era of prosperity where, by the middle of the decade the budget will be in surplus, the inflation rate under 5 per cent and the real growth rate about 5 per cent, may just become reality if every element in the new plan is rapidly implemented.

The broad sweep of the programme is breathtaking. Success would revive the world economy and be a blow to socialism everywhere. But success will crucially depend upon President Reagan's talents as a salesman.

One may question whether he has got the stamina for a campaign tougher still than the election one of last year. To force the programme down the throats of Congress and the Civil Service alone demands an extraordinary degree of political skill, and if Mr Reagan fails, then one might hear more of vice-president George Bush, who, when challenging Reagan on the election stump early last year, described the old Hollywood actor's theories as "Voodoo economics".

Technology

How the heat pump blows hot and cold

When something for nothing is offered well-brought-up individuals will naturally look for the catch; the very idea flies in the face of Murphy's Law and so it cannot be true. But, in energy terms, a something-for-nothing technology is already with us (the idea was already with Lord Kelvin, the great mathematical physicist, in the mid-1800s, but it is rather more recently that it has been applied).

The technology is that of the heat pump, and it gives something for nothing in the sense that it produces more energy (typically for space or water heating in buildings) than it consumes. It is in effect the principle of the refrigerator in reverse, with the system taking heat (albeit at low temperature) from the outside air and concentrating it for use inside a building.

Heat pumps can be used in conjunction with unconventional heating systems such as solar panels, and as an integral part of air-conditioning systems. The interior of such disparate premises as Frederick's restaurant, Camden Passage, London, the Mothercare shop, Woking, the C & A building, Arndale Centre, Manchester, Martin's newsagents, Haywards Heath, Roach Vale County Primary School, Essex and the bistro at Liverpool Street Station, London, are among those that have been made more cost-effectively comfortable with the help of heat pumps.

The refrigerator-in-reverse label is an over-simplification, but a heat pump uses the same basic components as a vapour-compression refrigerator—an outside heat-exchanger coil, an inside coil, and a compressor. One coil will act as a condenser and the other as an evaporator; which is which depends on whether the circuit is heating or cooling (in typical applications the heat pump provides a reversible air-conditioning system).

A refrigerant (normally a Freon fluid) circulates through the coils. In use for heating, the liquid refrigerant evaporates in the outside coil, absorbing low-grade heat from the outside air. An electrically driven compressor is used to compress the refrigerant (now in gas form). As the gas is compressed its pressure and temperature are raised.

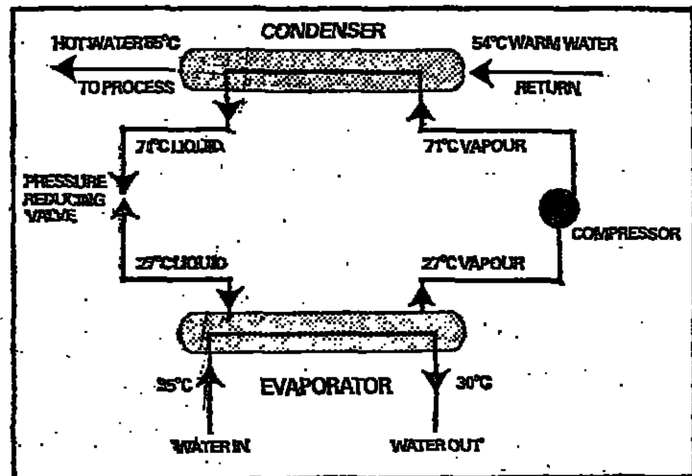
Passing to the inside coil, the gas then condenses by giving up heat, providing warm air for the interior. The condensed refrigerant passes back to the outside coil and the cycle is repeated. Valves enable the flow to be reversed for cooling (with the outer coil acting as condenser and the inner one as evaporator) or to defrost the outer coil.

The performance of heat pumps is measured by the ratio of the heat produced to the work (in energy terms) put in. This is known as the coefficient of performance (heating) and it is always greater than one, reflecting the fact that, uniquely, the heat pump produces more usable energy than it consumes.

In a number of installations monitored by the Electricity Council in recent years, including the premises referred to earlier, coefficients of 2.5 and 3 have been obtained. In other words, for every kilowatt consumed to drive the heat pump, 2.5 or 3 kilowatts of useful heat energy is produced. Energy savings are heating have amounted to 40 per cent in some cases.

Heat pumps used in this manner for heating and cooling the interiors of commercial buildings can in principle obtain their heat input from the ground or from water, but the outside air is normally used, with the installations located on the roof. The heat pump system at the Royal Festival Hall, London was designed to take heat from the Thames.

Professor Ewart Neal of the University of Aston, Birmingham has pointed out ways in which the efficiency of domestic heat-pump systems can be raised by increasing the temperature of the "outside" air. For houses with south-facing sunroof roofs, warmed air under the roof can be used.



For industrial use, a heat pump can take water (or air) at 35°C and produce water (or air) at 65°C. This flow diagram is based on the Westinghouse "Templifier" design.

Even for houses without any special solar panels, appropriately located evaporator coils can take advantage of higher air temperatures, Professor Neal has shown. The normal roof of a house absorbs solar radiation and the heat-pump evaporator is installed in the roof space. Even greater energy savings are possible if a "thermal store"—for example, a basement water tank—is also incorporated. Heat is transferred to the store by one heat exchanger and taken from the store as required by another.

In industry, the heat pump provides one way of recovering process heat—from the hot exhausts of ovens and furnaces, for example—that would otherwise be wasted.

A typical upper temperature at which heat can be delivered using heat pumps is about 50°C, but higher-temperature heat pumps have also been developed. One such system, based on research and development by the Electricity Council Research Centre at Capenhurst, Cheshire, and Westair Dynamics was designed to give an improved drying process for the timber industry. Here the condenser operated at 90°C, giving airstream temperatures of 80°C.

Another use is in heat-recovery systems for swimming pools. Last week Mr Robert Peddie, chairman of the South Eastern Electricity Board, described progress in this area at Eastbourne Leisure Pool, the hundredth swimming pool in Britain to have electric heat pumps installed for energy saving air and water heating.

"Using heat recovery with dehumidification by an electric heat pump means that most of the heat energy comes from within the building itself and the total amount of energy delivered can be greatly reduced", he said. "Here at Eastbourne there will be a 75 per cent reduction in the delivered energy which has to be paid for."

Swimming pools need ventilation to remove moisture from the air, heating for the pool—to about 27°C—(creating more moisture in turn by evaporation), and heating of the air used for ventilation to a comfortable temperature. This normally demands a great deal of heat energy from the boiler.

Using a heat pump dehumidifier, the moisture is removed directly. Only a small amount of ventilating air is then needed, and recovered heat can be used to heat the air, pool water, and water for showers.

Heat pumps are being applied also in dairies, for a variety of tasks including milk chilling and heat recovery. A combined water and heat recovery system based on a Westinghouse heat pump was opened this week at the Milk Marketing Board's dairy (primarily a bottling and cartoning depot) at Bamber Bridge, Lancashire.

The type of heat pump used in this installation, known as a "Templifier" or temperature amplifier, has a large compressor which enables water temperatures up to 110°C to be produced. Capital cost of the Bamber Bridge project, implemented by NEI Projects, Westinghouse Electric and APL Wallis Associates the consultant engineers, is expected to be recovered in four years from the savings achieved.

Heat pumps provide substantial energy savings, and it would be surprising if their use in industry is not followed by their widespread adoption in domestic systems. Lord Kelvin was ahead of his time in two respects: in the idea, in the 1850s, of heating houses by abstracting energy from the earth; and also in the name he gave to his proposed device. He called it a "heat multiplier" which Westinghouse have now rephrased as the temperature amplifier.

Kenneth Owen

Business Diary: Kerkorian's Columbia payoff ● Mary, Mary quite exemplary

Kirk Kerkorian's battle to control Columbia Pictures appears over with the maverick financier emerging a winner to the tune of $79m (£34.5m).

For three years Kerkorian and Columbia have been locked in legal squabbles over who should run the film company. But on Wednesday it was announced that Kerkorian will get $55 a share in cash and notes for his massive holdings of Columbia common stock which adds up to $2,438,700.

The price he will receive if Columbia's directors approve when they meet next Wednesday, represents a 44 per cent premium over the current market value of the stock which closed on Wednesday at $38.75.

This is a spectacular coup for the low key ex-pilot who will have more than doubled his investment he began to make in 1978, when the buying price averaged $24.

It is likely that as a result of the settlement all pending lawsuits will be dropped. As part of the deal, Kerkorian has promised not to repurchase Columbia stock or participate in any proxy fight for at least ten years.

He will get $37.50 a share in cash and the balance will be payable in the form of a 6 per cent interest bearing note due on January 31, 1983. The settlement ends one of Hollywood's biggest power struggles, between Kerkorian and Wall Street broker Herb Allen, a powerful Columbia director.

Even if Kerkorian had won his law suit it is believed that he would have had a tough struggle to take control of the studio and agreeing to sell out was a smart step by him.

What will Kerkorian do with the cash? Twentieth Century Fox studios is the focus of takeover rumours and so Business Diary would not be surprised to see the film-struck Kerkorian moving in there.

● Norris McWhirter and his team at the *Guinness Book of Records* are carrying out their annual review of superlatives ahead of the publication this October of the next edition of this singular work of reference.

One claim McWhirter and company will be checking out is that Mary Moody (right) is the oldest company chairman in the world.

Mrs Moody, who will be 100 on April 7, is the chairman of the Stourbridge stationers Mark & Moody's, who has been chairman of the 140-year-old company since 1927, following the death of her husband Arthur the previous year.

Should Mrs Moody's claim check out—and there cannot be that many chairmen of her age —then McWhirter will have to institute a new category.

There is no "oldest chairman" slot at the moment—although in the "longest working career" section, there is "longest working life recorded in the United Kingdom" and "longest recorded industrial career in one job".

Both these, as you might expect, are held by members of the longer-lived sex.

The holder of the former is a Miss Polly Gadsby, who, having started work aged nine with Archibald Turner and Company of Leicester, was still working there 86 years later in 1932 wrapping elastic.

Then there was Susan O'Hagan whose death in 1909 at the age of 107 ended 97 years in service with the Hall family of Lisburn, near Belfast.

The best men can do was done by Theodore C. Taylor, who died in 1952 aged 102 after 86 years with J. T. & T. Taylor of Batley, 56 of them as chairman.

Roll over, Theodore, owd lad, it could be your time has come.

Julia Rawlings (right) yesterday presented this cheque for £88,330 to Robin Leigh-Pemberton, chairman of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council.

She handed over the money as part of centenary celebrations of the construction company, George Wimpey, whose employees raised £250,000 for charity last year.

For Leigh-Pemberton, the day was of double rapture. Not only was he pulling in the cash for his favourite charity, but the fair Julia is of the National Westminster Bank denomination. NatWest being Wimpey's bankers and Leigh-Pemberton being chairman of NatWest.



● Justin Dukes, the man who took the *Financial Times* into Europe, is leaving it there. From May 1, he is to be founder-managing director and deputy chief executive of Channel Four, the new commercial television channel due to come on air next year.

The announcement came as something of a surprise at the *FT* yesterday, but there again the office grapevine has never worked too well in Bracken House. When former editor Fredy Fisher decided to jump ship last year few knew until a notice board announcement appeared.

The Frankfurt print run which Dukes masterminded is something of a mixed blessing for the paper. While there is no doubt that it is an advanced and futuristic step in the communications world, it is equally certain that the move has cost the *FT*'s owners Pearson Longman dear.

Dukes, joint managing director of the *FT* and chairman of Financial Times (Europe), dreamed up the scheme after his masterplan for turning the paper over to new technology bit the dust.

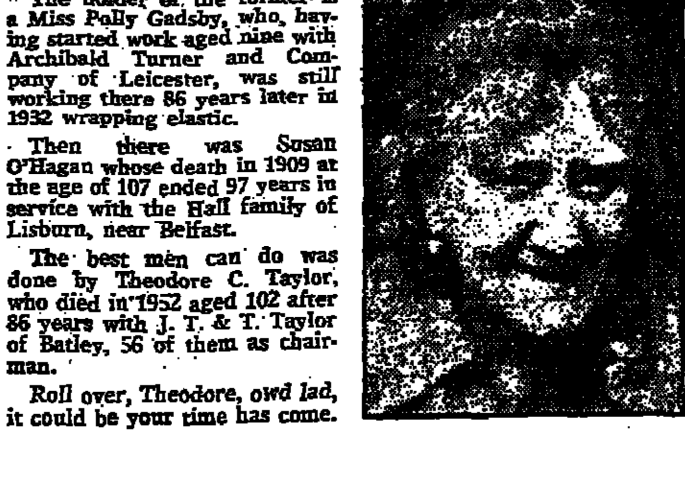
Edmund Dell, the former Secretary of State for Trade who now chairs Channel Four, announced Dukes' appointment yesterday.

In reality, he will be the administrative man under chief executive Jeremy Isaacs, running everything except programming policy which remains the preserve of the other deputy chief executive and also channel controller Paul Bonner.

The *FT*'s marketing director, Richard McClean, becomes MD (marketing) and the other present joint MD Alan Cox becomes MD (production and administration).

I do not know whether it is any consolation or not, but Japan's bankruptcies hit a record 1,314 cases (up 10.5 per cent) in January—but then the value of their debts dropped by about the same amount. That is efficiency for you.

Ross Davies



Stock markets

Government concessions inspire equities

The Government's retreat on the coal dispute, which resulted in a return to work call by miners' leaders, brought a renewed surge of confidence to the market yesterday.

Jobbers reported increased turnover with more emphasis placed on leading industrials. Indeed, one leading pension fund was reported to be a big buyer of selected blue chips and was partly responsible for sharp increases in **Glaxo**, up 6p to 270p, **Unilever**, 8p to 463p, **Hawker Siddeley**, 14p to 280p, and **Metal Box**, 6p to 195p.

The FT Index, which made a cautious start, soon gathered pace and closed 4.9 higher at 494.2, having been 5.0 higher at 1 pm.

But the climbdown by the Government in the face of such sudden strike action by the miners remained the main talking point. One leading jobber said the U-turn might be the prelude to changes in favour of the manufacturing industry in the forthcoming Budget. So sentiment remained firm and was further reinforced by the money supply figures, which were in line with expectations.

Overall conditions were described as almost perfect for the launch of dealing in shares of British Aerospace later this morning. Jobbers were busy last night laying on extra staff to cope with business which is expected to be chaotic and the Stock Exchange doors will be opened 10 minutes earlier than usual. Brokers were also busy upgrading earlier forecasts and now expect that the shares will open above the 15p premium originally predicted.

Gilts made an encouraging start as investors hedged their bets in case of a possible cut in MLR at 12.30. The Government broker took advantage of the situation to activate some more of the new tap Treasury 12 per cent 1986 which he opened up at £20¼ although he encountered only modest support.

The decision to leave MLR unchanged saw only small profit taking in the afternoon and many issues still recorded sizeable increases. In longs rises of £⅛ to £¼ were recorded while in shorts the gains were extended to £⅜ in places.

Leaders made further progress after a confused start brought about by Mr Arthur Scargill's statement that Yorkshire miners intended still to strike on Monday.

Coal dispute news sent mining suppliers racing ahead yesterday. One broker was able to unload over 250,000 shares in Dobson Park at the market price in a matter of minutes. The shares closed 5p higher at 98½p.

Rises of up to 3p were seen in **ICI** at 296p, **Beecham** at 183p, **Fisons** at 141p, after 143p, **GKN** at 152p and **Lucas Industries** at 171p. But **BOC International** fell 5p to 115p on comment over Wednesday's first quarter figures.

The Government's pledge of further support for the National Coal Board brought a flurry of activity to mining suppliers. **Anderson Strathclyde** hardened 3½p to 76½p, **Dowty** 8p to 230p, **Mining Supplies** 5p to 132p and **Burnett & Hallamshire** 12p to 905p. **AAH** held steady at 185p, after 187p.

Electricals encountered renewed demand but stock shortages continued to make for volatile conditions among the jobbers. The British Aerospace debut also brought a little spice to many of the electronic issues involved in aerospace activities.

GEC leapt 13p to 646p accompanied by **Racal**, 10p higher at 351p, and **Ferranti** up 5p to 500p. **Plessey**, reporting third quarter figures next Thursday, hardened 4p to 104p. Among second line issues **Eurotherm International** was favoured, climbing 11p to 266p while **MK Electric** rose 12p to 198p and **Electrocomponents** 25p to 688p.

Banks were in a quiet mood ahead of the dividend season, which begins today led by **Lloyds**, 1p higher at 326p. **Midland** held steady at 328p, but **Barclays** shed 4p to 391p and **National Westminster** 2p to 363p.

In financials the full-year figures from jobbers **Smith Bros** were slightly above expectations and the shares advanced 2p to 42p, while **English Association** climbed 25p to 465p after its interim statement. But **Goode Durrant & Murray** fell 6½p to 21p after trading news.

Other trading news had **Associated Fisheries** retreating 5p to 48p, **Sime Darby** 3p to 81p and **Daejan** 13p to 165p, although better than expected profits lifted **William Whittingham** 12p to 140p and **Marchwiel** recovered 7p to 96p after turning in a small profit. **Wedgwood**, still making the most from recent figures, was 8p dearer at 67½p.

Awaiting further developments **F. Pratt**, where Bardsey holds 12 per cent, raced ahead 8p to 118p. **Davy Corp**, still fending off the approaches of Enserch, hardened 4p to 147p and **Denbyware** improved 2p to 88p in response to the bid from Crown House. A warning to take no action for the time being from the board of **London Sumatra** on the bid from Harrisons & Crosfield had the former 13p stronger at 388p.

BPC rallied 1½p to 15p from recent comment over the attempted rescue from Pergamon Press but in buildings **London Brick** lost ½p to 69½p on its planned closure of its Ridgmont works.

In engineering, support was found for **BET D'fd**, 7p higher at 123p, but **Duport** eased 1p to 11½p as the market awaited an announcement on the Phoenix Two project.

Stores ended the day in a better frame of mind in spite of fears of a High Street price war *in the wake of Woolworth's* cost cutting exercise. Shares of **Woolworth** closed steady at 54p, after 53p, and stock shortages saw **GUS "A"** rise 5p to 485p, **Mothercare** 2p to 222p and **Debenhams** 8p to 85p. **Boots** appeared to be left behind as the shares slipped another 4p to 238p.

Oils saw renewed demand across the board in sharp contrast to Wednesday when investors held off in anticipation of President Reagan's tough budget speech. Among the leaders **BP** added 6p to 396p, **Shell** 8p to 406p, **Ultramar** 10p to 468p, **Lasmo** 13p to 647p, **Tricentrol** 8p to 316p and **Burmah** 4p to 180p. Demand was also keen among second liners and **Berkeley Exploration** stood out with a 20p rise at 258p while in "Aussies" **Strata Oil** recovered from its earlier disappointment over Woodada, rallying 10p to 186p.

Around 500,000 shares of Hanson Trust, which has just failed in its bid for Central Manufacturing & Trading, were placed in the market this week at 220p.

Properties drew a small amount of speculative support in the hope of cheaper money. Profit taking in the afternoon saw most issues close off the top but most were still showing plus signs at the close. **MEPC** rose 3p to 238p, **Land Securities** 5p to 400p, **Hammerson 'A'** 10p to 645p and **Stock Conversion** 7p to 355p.

Equity turnover on February 18 was £123.768m (15,152 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Shell, GEC, Boots, Fisons, Dobson Park, ICI, BP, BAT, Beecham, Turner & Newall, RTZ, Land Securities, IC Gas, Hongkong & Shanghai Bank and Associated Dairies.

Traded options enjoyed the upturn in the main equity market and 932 contracts were recorded compared with the previous day's 290. Grand Met was favoured with 263 followed by Racal with 121.

Traditional options saw calls in Firth Brown on 3½p, Ultramar on 42p and Amal Dist Prods on 5½p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Assoc Fisheries (F)	68.7(73.6)	0.005(2.19)	2.74(9.60)	0.75(0.75)	—	1.0(1.0)
Eng Association (I)	—(—)	0.53(0.22)	12.69(5.33)	1.23(1.21)	10/4	—(—)
Goode Durrant (F)	46.0(41.1)	1.79(1.51)	—(—)	0.75(0.75)	5/3	—(1)
Leaden Fish Drs (I)	0.95(0.91)	0.04(0.05)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Marchwiel (F)	260.7(238.8)	0.65(13.3)	13.0(32.9)	3.6(3.6)	—	6.0(6.0)
Newbold and Brtn (F)	11.57(11.64)	0.45(0.84)	5.8(13.6)	2.38(—)	3/4	3.78(3.78)
Scottish Eastern (F)	—(—)	6.48*(6.2*)	3.48(3.36)	1.75(—)	—	3.25(3.2)
Sime Darby (I)	1,347‡(1,110‡)	137‡(140)	11.2‡(9.7‡)	5‡(4.5‡)	29/5	5‡(13‡)
Smith Bros (I)	—(—)	1.5(0.5†)	—(—)	1(—)	30/3	—(2.5)
Throgmorton Tst (I)	—(—)	0.18(0.21)	1.19(1.37)	0.61(0.61)	3/4	—(—)
Wm Whittingham (F)	25.12(20.8)	2.8(2.2)	31.98(28.83)	4.5(4.0)	30/4	6.75(6.0)
Wedgwood (I)	78.16(69.78)	3.62(4.56)	7.4(9.1)	0.87(1.75)	—	4.18(4.18)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. * Gross revenue. † Loss. ‡ Malaysian dollars and cents.

Howard Machinery baffled as Diamond raises stake

By Catherine Gunn

Speculation over the intentions of private American company Diamond Industries mounted at Howard Machinery yesterday after news that Diamond had taken its stake in Howard to 16.7 per cent. The shares gained 1p to 30p.

Diamond Industries bought the extra 355,000 shares from private trust Marlborough Securities, previously a staunch holder of Howard, a Suffolk agricultural manufacturer. Diamond, whose chairman is Mr Stanley Mann, has also taken a six month option to buy Marlborough's remaining 6.9 per cent shareholding in Howard and to use that vote, in the meantime.

Mr Mann has not contacted Howard Machinery to indicate why Diamond has built up this stake. "We don't understand it", Mr C. F. Alsop, Howard's chief executive, said yesterday. "And we don't see any industrial or commercial logic in it, *from what we know of* Diamond's interests".

Howard is suffering from the recession hitting its British and European markets, though sales in the southern hemisphere are better, Mr Alsop says. The £6.5m proceeds of the sale of a subsidiary, J. Mann, to German group Claas last November, have been used to reduce borrowings and interest costs. The group has estimated its losses to October 31 at £3m after tax.

Diamond Industries has interests in home oil heating, petrol trading and barge terminals. It bought a near 10 *per cent stake in the American* broking firm Bache Group from the Hunt brothers after their costly foray into silver dealing. Mr Eric Levine, the solicitor, is acting for Diamond in London.

Directors of Rosgill threaten to resign

By Rosemary Unsworth

Rosgill Holdings, the direct selling group, has made a last ditch attempt to fight off the £2.6m unwanted bid from Lawncast, the private company that is jointly owned by Mr James Ingles, Rosgill's former chairman and Amber Day Holdings.

In a letter to shareholders, Rosgill directors, excluding Mr David Peel, the chairman, who is to be dismissed if the bid succeeds, say they will resign if the offer goes through.

Their objections are that the 27½p a share offer price was below the market price when the bid was made, that it is less than the 30p a share asset value, and is only 3.7 times earnings for the year to December 30, 1980.

The directors also object to Amber Day's proposal to appoint as managing director Mr Mark Dickson, who, they say, has no direct selling experience, and reinstall Mr Ingles as a non-executive director. Mr Ingles founded the company in 1968 but, according to Mr Peel, he has not played an active part in the day-to-day running of the company for more than 10 years. Last year Mr Peel, who was on the point of leaving Rosgill, replaced Mr Ingles as chairman.

"Should Amber Day" insist on proceeding with the offer my co-directors have told Amber Day in writing to anticipate that they would resign should the bid succeded", Mr Peel said. "*As you know, I am to be* dismissed and I understand that a number of other key employees have also indicated that it would be their intention to resign." He also pointed out that some staff had restraint clauses in their contracts, preventing them from immediately starting up similar businesses.

But Lawncast has already received acceptances for 58 per cent of the shares and is likely to go unconditional with the offer after an extraordinary meeting of Amber Day shareholders to approve the acquisition of Lawncast on February 27.

Earlier this week Rosgill and its advisers offered 29p a share for ICFC's 26 per cent stake and for the 5.75 per cent holding of Grapefield, a Courtaulds subsidiary holding, via a placing. ICFC, which brought Rosgill to the stock market in 1972, refused the offer as it had given irrevocable undertakings to Amber Day and believed that any offer should be available to all shareholders.

Smith Bros swings back to profit

By Philip Robinson

Stock jobbers Smith Bros yesterday reported a major turnover in first half profits. It made more money between April and October last year than in the whole of the previous 12 months.

The firm, one of two publicly-quoted jobbers on the London Exchange, is also restoring the interim dividend, paying a gross 1.428p against nothing last time. The dividend is paid from pretax profits of £1.4m against a loss of £522,000 in the comparable period in 1979, and profits of £1.7m for the second half of last year.

A major contribution to Smith's best first half since it went public 12 years ago, was its international business. The United Kingdom jobber is known for its business in South African gold shares.



Mr Anthony Lewis, chairman of Smith Bros.

But it also has substantial Australian business and deals in eight of the major United Kingdom equity sectors. It is also one of the few jobbers thought to be making money from the London traded options market.

No breakdown of profits is ever given by Smiths, but over the six months period the gold price rose 21 per cent, the Gold Mines Index was up 51.1 per cent, the *FT* 30-share index improved 13.9 per cent, and the all-share index of 750 stocks increased 23.9 per cent.

Smith's records a loss of £21,500 as its share of the joint venture with major United Kingdom equities and Government stock jobbers, Wedd Durlacher Mordaunt, to take part in the European Options Exchange in Amsterdam.

Mr Anthony Lewis, chairman said: "The European Options Exchange has been running at a lower level, in the same way as London, but Amsterdam is an interesting situation because they are starting the trade in gold futures in April and we have a dealer ready for that."

Mr Lewis is cautious about the second half of this year. In a statement accompanying the figures he says that trading since October has been quieter.

English Association off to strong start

By Roman Eisenstein

The English Association, *formerly known as the English* Association of American Bond and Shareholders, is a fast-growing financial group whose shares rose steadily last year on the stockmarket. Yesterday *it reported interim figures* which should please shareholders, though the hopes are based more on future prospects than upon past performance.

For the six months to the end of last December the English Association Group made profits before tax of £528,000 as against £218,000. For the full year to the end of last June profits before tax were £529,500. The interim dividend has been increased from 1.74p gross a *share to 1.78p gross.*

Earnings per share, as adjusted for last October's rights issue, have risen from 5.33p to 12.69p. Over the six months period the share capital has been doubled from £423,000 to *£846,000.*

The board says in its interim statement that the group is making good progress on all its activities. Last October the group confirmed its ambitions to develop into the merchant banking field when it raised £2.32m through a one-for-one rights issue. It was then revealed that the merchant banking activities would be conducted through a subsidiary called the English Association Trust.

Full-year profits leap at Whittingham

By Catherine Gunn

William Whittingham (Holdings), the Wolverhampton property development and photographic processing group, saw pretax profits jump 29 per cent to £2.85m in the year to October 31. The dividend went up 12.7 per cent to 9.64p gross in line with earnings.

Profits before interest rose £1.76m, to £4.72m, but a steep rise in interest charges to £1.87m from £747,000 left the pretax figure a more modest £638,000 higher on the previous year's performance.

The development and property division again contributed the largest share of profits with £2.44m, a 45 per cent increase. But the photographic side, Colortrend, showed the best performance with an 85 per cent leap in profits to £1.9m. Investment income, a side which the group is anxious to develop, totalled £374,000 against £228,000.

Residential building provides the larger share of the property division's profits. The group had a good carry-forward of building work from the previous year and business, though down, came in steadily during 1979-80. Since December there have been signs of an improvement in the market and industrial lettings have also picked up since then.

Mr John Wardle, chairman of Whittingham.

The photographic side had a good second half, which is when it makes almost all its profits. But the mail order processing market has grown more competitive since the end of 1980 and the division is not likely to repeat last year's growth in 1980-81, Mr Geoffrey Sharples, the joint managing director, said last night.

He is "quietly confident" about the group's performance in the current year. The chairman of the company is Mr John Wardle. Borrowings have been reduced from the year end levels, and interest costs are declining.

Briefly

Meldrum Investment Trust: Pretax revenue for 1980, £1.13m (£983,000). Total gross dividend, 4.64p (4.28p, including special dividend of 0.71p).

C. Shippam of Chichester, Sussex, the sandwich spread manufacturers, report record sales of £19.3m for last year—a rise of 22 per cent on 1979.

Godfrey Davis: RIT has sold its 28 per cent stake in the group and it has been acquired by Hume Investment Trust, which is 60 per cent owned by RIT. The transfer was agreed by RIT shareholders at the last agm to go into effect after the Monopolies Commission decision on Godfrey Davis' car rental business merger with Europcar.

Francis Industries: At an extraordinary general meeting a resolution to enable the acquisition of the entire share capital of Evered and Co Holdings was duly passed.

Whiteley Bay Entertainments: Samuel Montagu and Co intends to despatch the formal document for offer by Mr and Mrs Cooper within the course of the next few days.

Wood and Sons (Hldgs): Newman Industries has sold 50,000 shares reducing interest to 871,000 shares (21.77 per cent).

Bristol Waterworks: Offer for sale by tender of £4m 8 per cent *redeemable preference stock*, 1986. Average price obtained was £101.30. Dealings will commence on Friday, February 20.

Agricultural Mortgage Corporation: Announces issue of £2m 12⅞ per cent bonds February 26, 1982 at £100 per cent. Interest (less Income Tax) will be payable by warrants: August 20, 1981 £6.4375 per cent; February 26, 1982 £6.6491 per cent.

Celcon Ltd, the privately-owned manufacturer of Celcon aerated concrete blocks, Ryarsh bricks and Noelite decorative concrete products, reports results for 1980 showing a net profit of £3.97m £30.83m (£28.26m). I.C.F.C. holds 25 per cent of the share capital of Celcon.

Photograph by John Manning

Lord Aberconway, chairman of English China Clays, at yesterday's annual meeting in London.

J Saville Gordon plans £1.9m deal

J. Saville Gordon, the Birmingham metal processing and merchanting group, said yesterday it had reached agreement in principle to acquire the whole of the issued share capital of Jacey Investments for £1.9m.

The consideration would be £118,000 cash and £1.8m of guaranteed unsecured loan stock. Jacey and its subsidiaries own a portfolio of investment properties.

The Saville board said it was in the best interests of the shareholders to broaden the group's base. The acquisition, it said, was at a very satisfactory price and would provide a portfolio of widely spread income producing properties with good prospects of capital appreciation.

Dobson Park sees lower profit

The current forecast from Mr J. Francis, chairman of Dobson Park Industries, is for a less satisfactory result for the current year, than last year. He explained to the annual meeting that difficulties experienced in the latter months of 1979-80 have continued into the current year.

The position has been made worse by significant cut-backs by the National Coal Board whilst the continuing strength of sterling is further reducing margins on exports in all products groups. With the expectation of an upturn in the world economy during next twelve months the group must maintain its market shares for the future, even at the cost of margins in the short term.

His current forecast for the year 1980-81 now suggests a less satisfactory result than last year.

Milford Docks on progress of Bill

Mr C. A. Smith, chairman of Milford Docks, says in a circular to shareholders that the Bill, referred to in the annual report which was adopted at the annual meeting in July, was presented to Parliament last November and if the proposed Bill is adopted and becomes law in its present form it will give the powers the company requires to reconstruct works and to seek further powers for diversifying the port and other services.

There will be an extraordinary general meeting on March 18 at which a copy of the Bill will be submitted for approval.

Greenall Whitley not to raise prices

The annual meeting of Greenall Whitley and Co heard Mr Christopher Hutton chairman say that any Budget tax increases on beer, wines and spirits would be "self defeating." The company has no present intention of raising prices. Sales to date have been reasonably steady though he was not *without optimism that there are* signs of a minor recovery.

It would be foolhardy to make any firm predictions, he said because of the possible impact of the Budget on March 10, the effect of the weather on summer trading, and how long the recession will last.

Leaderflush dips for half year

Leaderflush (Holdings) reports a turnover on the half year to September 30 at £951,000 against £917,000. Profits were £45,000 against £50,000 after interest.

The board says that although the company continued to trade profitably during the period, trading is currently being affected by pressure on margins resulting from efforts to maintain the order book. The directors feel that in view of the high level of borrowings, it is in the group's best interest to defer consideration of a dividend until the end of the year.

Goode Durrant ahead for year

Goode Durrant and Murray Group is holding its dividend at 1.07p gross for the year to October 31. Turnover rose from £41.1m to £46.04m and pretax profits from £1.5m to £1.79m. The profit per share was 4.8p against 3.79p

Business appointments

Mr Dukes joins Channel Four

Mr Justin Dukes, joint managing director of *The Financial Times*, will become managing director and deputy chief executive of the Channel Four Television company on May 1. As managing director, he will be a member of the board of the company. He will join the board of Channel Four in a non-executive capacity on March 1.

Mr John Bayliss has been named by Abbey National Building Society as general manager of housing with special additional responsibility for the creation of a central customer services division. Mr Richard Baglin is made general manager of field operations and development embracing regional and branch organizations and European operations. Mr Robert Rendel is now general manager of personnel, training and pensions.

Mr J. Donaldson has joined the board of Park Place Investments.

Mr David Macdonald is now on the board of Sears Holdings in a non-executive capacity.

Mr G. F. Cole has become a director of Reed-Stenhouse UK in its Midlands region.

Mr Bill Morter is the new sales and marketing director of Harrison & Sons (London).

Mr Graham White has been made a director of Greenwoods Transport.

Mr M. Crossley is the new assistant managing director of *The Scotsman Publications*. Mr A. L. Davidson becomes assistant managing director of *Western Mail & Echo* and Mr R. B. Johnston is now assistant managing director of the *Chester Chronicle*. All publications are members of Thomson Regional Newspapers.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, [illegible] £50,000 12½%.

MONEY SUPPLY

Figures released for the monthly amount of money stock, seasonally adjusted at the mid-month dates.

	Sterling M1 £000m	Sterling M3 £000m	Private sector liquidity
1980			
Jan	27.7	56.3	109.1
Feb	27.2	55.6	107.0
March	27.6	56.9	103.0
April	27.5	57.1	109.8
May	27.6	58.3	110.9
June	27.6	55.7	111.6
July	28.2	61.7	113.3
Aug	28.3	63.5	115.3
Sept	28.6	63.3	115.7
Oct	28.7	65.0	117.5
Nov	29.2	65.5	118.6
Dec	29.3	66.7	120.4
1981			
Jan	29.3	67.1	122.3

CAPITAL SPENDING

Figures published yesterday by the Department of Industry for the fixed capital expenditure of manufacturing, distributing and service for the increase in the value of stocks all seasonally adjusted at 1975 prices.

		£m *Investment Total	Mfg	£m Change in Stocks
1978		8,799	3,773	648
1979		9,356	3,873	765
1978	Q1	2,175	918	747
	Q2	2,208	960	177
	Q3	2,192	942	155
	Q4	2,233	953	168
1979	Q1	2,287	964	48
	Q2	2,422	952	367
	Q3	2,297	969	226
	Q4	2,430	977	125
1980	Q1	2,397	946	−667
	Q2	2,387	899	−176
	Q3	2,372	871	−383
	Q4	2,335	841	−633

* Excluding shipping

PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWING REQUIREMENT

Figures released by the CSO for the public sector borrowing requirement

£m seasonally adjusted

		Central government borrowing requirement Total	Central government borrowing requirement of which on lending	Public sector borrowing requirement
1977-78		4.431	1.773	5.594
1978-79		8.084	2.113	9.192
1979-80		8.226	3.969	9.915
1979	Q1	1.325	329	2.168
	Q2	2.535	720	2.259
	Q3	2.725	1.057	3.712
	Q4	2.904	1.390	3.564
1980	Q1	−60	724	−240
	Q2	3.031	1.066	4.149
	Q3	3.314	1.169	3.281
	Q4	4.274	1.742	4.332

SECTOR BORROWING REQUIREMENTS

		Central govt. own account	Local authy.	Public corps.
1977-78		2.655	1.452	1.244
1978-79		5.965	1.239	1.943
1979-80		4.238	2.934	2.673
1979	Q1	936	405	324
	Q2	1.307	525	−457
	Q3	1.723	535	[illegible]
	Q4	1.514	916	[illegible]
1980	Q1	−791	675	−125
	Q2	1.965	906	[illegible]
	Q3	2.345	703	[illegible]
	Q4	2.302	965	[illegible]

MONTHLY CHANGE IN STERLING M3 AND DOMESTIC CREDIT EXPANSION (£m)

	Domestic credit expansion	External finance	Non-deposit liabilities	Sterling M3
1980				
Jan	+723	−104	−149	+465
Feb	+270	−57	+117	+330
March	+717	−231	−184	+302
April	+701	−342	−143	+216
May	+1,149	+246	−146	+1,249
June	+1,369	−843	−79	+447
July	+3,469	−209	−306	+2,954
Aug	+2,039	−120	−109	+1,810
Sept	+1,003	−563	−94	+346
Oct	+1,186	+303	−254	+1,235
Nov	1,450	−195	+102	+1,357
Dec	+869	−337	−161	+371
1981				
Jan	+634	−261	+66	+439

CONSUMERS' EXPENDITURE AT 1975 PRICES SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Selected components — £ million

	Total	Food, drink and tobacco	Housing, fuel and light	Clothing and footwear	Durable household goods	Cars and motor-cycles
1978	68,074	20,352	12,723	5,726	3,524	2,372
1979	71,270	20,873	13,241	6,086	4,004	2,551
1980	(71,671)	(20,803)	(13,108)	6,227	3,982	(2,207)
1979 1st qtr	17,456	5,153	3,333	1,451	933	596
2nd qtr	18,375	5,324	3,300	1,580	1,165	811
3rd qtr	17,543	5,168	3,297	1,479	916	529
4th qtr	17,896	5,228	3,311	1,576	990	615
1980 1st qtr	18,338	5,498	3,316	1,610	1,025	638
2nd qtr	17,704	5,111	3,230	1,558	990	509
3rd qtr	17,689	5,019	3,257	1,519	972	550
4th qtr	(17,940)	(5,175)	(3,305)	1,540	995	(510)

(prelim ests)

Harvester in credit discussions

International Harvester said yesterday in Chicago that it had brought together a group of international banks to negotiate term credits with its existing banks and to arrange additional financing for its credit subsidiary.

The term credits will replace existing credit facilities, including current bank borrowings of Harvester and the credit subsidiary of about $710m (£313m) and $1,720m, respectively.

The additional financing is expected to take the form of a sale of the receivable of the company's credit subsidiary.

The financing plan should be submitted to the banks by the end of this month and the new term credit facilities established by May 15.

Harvester said the banks involved were being asked to continue rescheduling maturing company and credit subsidiary debts, pending agreement on the new credit arrangements.

The banks involved are Bank of America, Bank of Montreal, Chase Manhattan Bank, Continental Illinois National Bank and Trust, Deutsche Bank, Lloyds Bank International, Manufacturers Hanover Trust and Morgan Guaranty Trust.

Meanwhile, the company's *first-quarter results showed* a net loss of $96.38m compared with a net loss of $222.2m, while sales totalled $1,628m against $1,008m. The normal quarterly dividend has been omitted.

International

MacMillan Bloedel

MacMillan Bloedel, the Canadian paper and wood products group, reported net profits for 1980 sharply lower at C$113.2m (£41.5m), against C$154.9m in 1979. Revenues rose from C$2,200m to C$2,460m.

For the fourth quarter, net profits slumped to C$5.7m from C$36.6m the year before on revenues of C$580.6m, against C$569m.

Alfa-Laval up

Alfa-Laval, the Swedish industrial equipment manufacturer, reported preliminary 1980 group profits, before special adjustments and taxes, of Kr489m (£46.6m), up from Kr401m in 1979.

Net sales rose to Kr6,500m from Kr5,490m.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	64	—	6.7	10.5	5.8
44	21	Armitage & Rhodes	43	—	1.4	3.3	17.7
192	92½	Bardon Hill	190	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	4.7
126	88	Frank Horsell	105	—	6.4	6.0	3.3
110	51	Frederick Parker	52	—	11.0	21.2	2.4
110	74	George Blair	74	—	3.1	4.2	—
110	59	Jackson Group	107	−1	6.9	6.4	4.1
124	103	James Burrough	119	−1	7.9	6.6	9.6
334	244	Robert Jenkins	330	—	31.3	9.5	—
55	50	Scruttons "A"	217	—	5.3	9.6	4.0
224	215	Torday Limited	216	−1	15.1	7.0	5.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	11½	−½	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	71	−1	15.0	21.1	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	40	+1	3.0	7.5	[illegible]
103	81	Walter Alexander	102	−1	5.7	5.6	5.6
263	181	W. S. Yeates	260	−2	12.1	4.7	4.2

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

Australia urges boost in world wheat production

Sydney, Feb 19.—Sir Leslie [illegible]ice, the chairman of the [Au]stralian Wheat Board, has [wa]rned that by 1990 an addi[tio]nal 60m metric tons of wheat [wi]ll have to be produced annu[all]y to satisfy world demand, [th]e *Asian Wall Street Journal* [re]ports.

"The world will run out of [gr]ain" if producing nations do [no]t boost output, he said

Sir Leslie, who recently held [tal]ks with top agricultural offi[cia]ls in the United States also [cri]ticized the Chicago Board of [Tr]ade's wheat futures market, saying that the prices being offered do not realistically *reflect world conditions.*

He studied the Chicago Board's operations while in that city and he follows the Chicago wheat futures prices daily in Australia. When he was in Chicago, he said: "I told the director of the Board of Trade that if this was the method of setting world grain prices then the system was going through a great credibility crisis. None of the influences on the futures market has one thing to do with the supply and demand of wheat which is supposed to make our market."

Discount market

What had looked earlier to be a day of small surplus eventually proved to be one of small shortage in the discount market yesterday. The Bank of England relieved this situation by purchasing a small quantity of eligible bank bills direct from the discount houses. Money tended to be tight throughout. Dealers said that £375m of returning money on the oversubscribed British Aerospace issue was a disturbing factor.

Foreign exchange report

The measures instigated by the Bundesbank and the Swiss National Bank yesterday to stabilize the D-mark and the Swiss franc prompted a sharp decline in the dollar, which closed at its lowest level of the day. Mr Reagan's economic "package" failed to stimulate the United States currency and Eurodollar deposit rates took a sharp tumble from the outset. Although a package was widely expected from the Bundesbank, which suspended the Lombard facility until February 28, the decision by the Swiss National Bank to add half-a-point to Bank rate at 4 per cent and lift the Lombard Rate by 1 per cent to 5½ per cent caused some surprise in the market.

The D-mark closed on offer with a 5-pfennig fall at 2.1375 (against 2.1865). Sterling also retreated, as measured by its trade-weighted index down to 101.9 from 102.2 overnight.

The decision by miners' leaders to order a return to work helped sentiment as did an unchanged MLR decision.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 19	Market rates (close) February 19	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.2875-2875	$2.2850-2860	0.40-0.50c disc	2.05-2.15c disc
Montreal	$2.7250-7450	$2.7405-7415	0.48-0.58c disc	2.25-2.40c disc
Amsterdam	5.30-38fl	5.33-34fl	2⅛-1⅝c prem	5½-4½c prem
Brussels	78.60-79.50f	78.65-80f	10c prem-par	4c prem-6c disc
Copenhagen	14.90-15.17k	15.03½-05½k	240ore prem-75ore prem	125-310ore disc
Dublin	1.3140-32.70p	1.3150-3160p	par-15p prem	15-40p prem
Frankfurt	4.85-93m	4.87¼-88¼m	1⅞-⅞pf prem	3⅞-2⅞pf prem
Lisbon	128.60-131.00e	129.55-85e	85c prem-32c disc	80c prem-145c d
Madrid	197.50-196.75p	198.65-75p	60c prem-49c disc	203-263c disc
Milan	2332-42lr	2335-37lr	5¾-7¾lr disc	31½-34½lr disc
Oslo	12.20-30k	12.27½-29½k	150ore prem-0ore disc	05-175ore disc
Paris	11.36½-43¼f	11.38-39f	3⅛-2⅛c prem	4½-3½c prem
Stockholm	10.44-53k	10.47-40k	345-425ore disc	1280-1375ore d
Tokyo	465-75y	472-74y	210-175y prem	600-525y prem
Vienna	34.55-90sch	34.70-80sch	14-11gro prem	32-36gro prem
Zurich	4.37-46f	4.39½-40½f	2½-1½c prem	6-5c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.3 at 101.9.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9565-1.9715
Bahrain	0.854-0.857
Finland	9.2475-9.2875
Greece	116.1-119.1
Hongkong	12.0390-12.0790
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.621-0.624
Malaysia	5.1615-5.1915
Mexico	52.5-54.00
New Zealand	2.4320-2.4520
Saudi Arabia	7.57-7.60
Singapore	4.735-4.765
South Africa	1.7645-1.7795

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	101.9	−24.7
US dollar	100.1	−4.1
Canadian dollar	84.8	−18.6
Schilling	114.7	+20.8
Belgian franc	107.9	+9.9
Danish kroner	90.2	−10.1
Deutsche mark	118.9	+38.3
Swiss franc	134.5	+75.2
Guilder	112.5	+16.1
French franc	86.2	−9.7
Lira	61.2	−53.8
Yen	147.3	+42.9

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7250-1.7300
† Canada	1.2001-1.2004
Netherlands	2.3250-2.3300
Belgium	34.52-34.50
Denmark	6.6150-6.6250
West Germany	2.1360-2.1390
Portugal	56.70-56.80
Spain	86.50-86.60
Italy	1023-1025
Norway	5.3700-5.3800
France	5.0025-5.0075
Sweden	4.5800-4.5900
Japan	206.70-206.90
Austria	15.07-15.12
Switzerland	1.9250-1.9300

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8525-0.8528

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%

(Last changed 24/11/80)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 14 Low 13½

Week Fixed: 13⅞-13¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12⅝	2 months	12⅞
3 months	12⅞	3 months	12⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	12⅞-12¾	3 months	13⅛
3 months	12⅝-12⁹⁄₁₆	4 months	12⅞
4 months	12³⁄₁₆-12⅛	6 months	12½
6 months	11¹⁵⁄₁₆-11¹³⁄₁₆		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15½-15¼	7 months	13⅛-12⅞
2 months	14¾-14⅜	8 months	13⅛-12⅞
3 months	13⅞-13⅜	9 months	13⅛-12⅞
4 months	13½-13¼	10 months	13⅛-12⅞
5 months	13¼-13	11 months	13⅛-12⅞
6 months	13⅛-12⅞	12 months	13-12¾

Secondary Mkt. ECD Rates (%)

1 month	14¹⁄₁₆-13¹⁵⁄₁₆	6 months	12⅝-12½
3 months	13¹⁄₁₆-12¹⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	12⁹⁄₁₆-12⁷⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14	3 months	13⅛
7 days	14⅛	6 months	12⅝
1 month	14⅛-14	1 year	12⁹⁄₁₆

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14¼-14 Close 13⅝

1 week	14⅛-14	6 months	12¹³⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆
1 month	14⅛-14	9 months	12⅝-12½
3 months	13¼-13	12 months	12⅝-12½

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13⅝ 6 months 13⅛

Finance House Base Rate 15%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.5605	+4.45	+0.35	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.94238	+2.83	−1.07	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.57800	+3.78	−0.12	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.99743	+2.57	−1.33	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.81807	+2.71	−1.19	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.693923	+3.85	−0.05	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1233.21	+6.51	+2.61	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 16⅝-17¾; seven days, 16⅝-16⅜; one month, 16½-16¼; three months, 16¹⁵⁄₁₆-17⁵⁄₁₆; six months, 16¹³⁄₁₆-17¹⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $505.50 (an ounce); pm, $503.25; close, $502.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $516-519 (£226.5-228.0).
Sovereigns (new): $125-127 (£54.75-55.75).

Wall Street

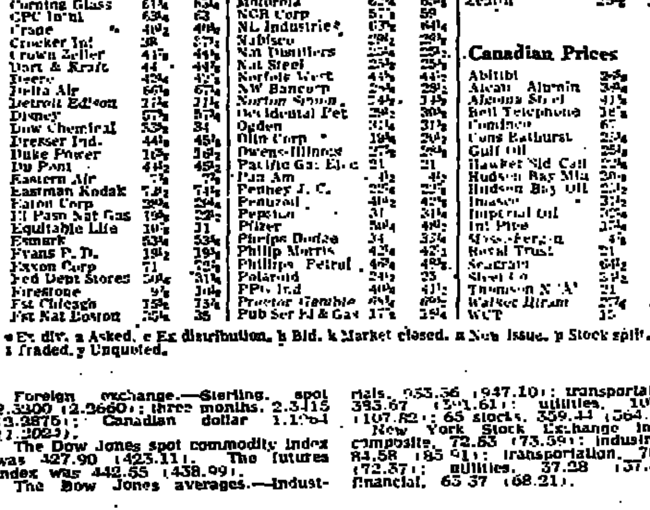
New York, Feb 19.—The New York stock market had a let-down today despite a generally-positive reception for President Reagan's economic proposals.

The Dow Jones industrial average was off 13.74 points to 933.36 after a steep afternoon slide. Declines totalled 1,116 compared with 413 advances. Some 375 issues remained unchanged. The NYSE composite index fell 1.06 to 72.53, and the average price per share was down 50 cents. Volume was 41 60 000 shares slightly ahead of Wednesday's 40 410 000 shares.

Analysts had no specific reasons for the decline suggesting that it probably reflected the prospect of some opposition to the President's programme.

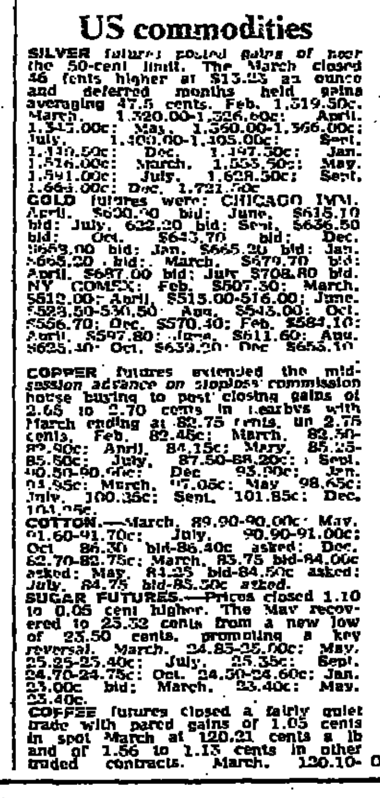
The oil, defence and high technology groups again took the brunt of the selling. Those groups, particularly the oils, became overweighted in investment portfolios because of their huge price gains over the past two years and are usually the first to be sold when investors want to raise cash.

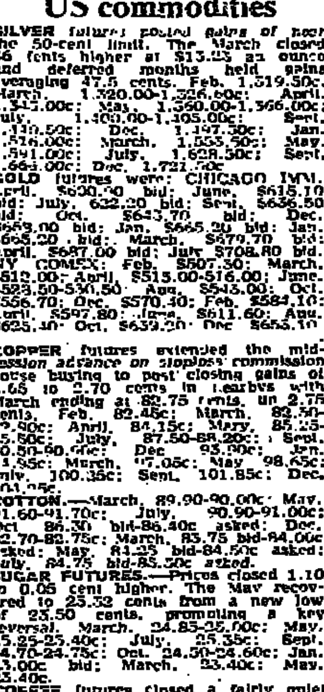
Standard Oil of California dropped 3⅞ to 91½, Exxon 1⅞ to 71, Texaco ⅞ to 39½, Freeport Minerals 2⅛ to 59, Standard Oil (Indiana) 2⅞ to 65½ and Mesa Petroleum 1⅛ to 52⅛. Volume leader El Paso Company fell 2⅞ to 19c. It faces a $375m write-off since talks between the United States and Algeria on natural gas prices failed.



• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

US commodities





SILVER futures posted gains of near the 50-cent limit. The March closed 46 cents higher at $13.25 an ounce and deferred months held gains averaging 47.5 cents. Feb, 1,319.50c. March, 1,320.00-1,326.60c; April, 1,345.00c; May, 1,360.00-1,366.00c; July, 1,400.00-1,405.00c; Sept, 1,440.50c; Dec, 1,497.50c; Jan, 1,516.00c; March, 1,555.50c; May, 1,591.00c; July, 1,628.50c; Sept, 1,664.00c; Dec, 1,721.50c. GOLD futures were: CHICAGO IMM. April, $600.90 bid; June, $615.10 bid; July, 622.20 bid; Sept, $636.50 bid; Oct, $643.70 bid; Dec, $659.00 bid; Jan, $665.20 bid; Jan, $665.20 bid; March, $679.70 bid; April, $687.00 bid; July $708.80 bid. NY COMEX: Feb, $507.30; March, $512.00; April, $515.00-516.00; June, $523.50-530.50; Aug, $543.00; Oct, $556.70; Dec, $570.40; Feb, $584.10; April, $597.80; June, $611.60; Aug, $625.40; Oct, $639.20; Dec $655.10.

COPPER futures extended the mid-session advance on stoploss commission house buying to post closing gains of 2.65 to 2.70 cents in nearbys with March ending at 82.75 cents, up 2.75 cents. Feb, 82.45c; March, 82.50-82.90c; April, 84.15c; May, 85.25-85.50c; July, 87.50-88.20c; Sept, 90.50-90.60c; Dec, 93.90c; Jan, 94.85c; March, 97.05c; May 98.65c; July, 100.35c; Sept, 101.85c; Dec, 104.05c.

COTTON.—March, 89.90-90.00c; May, 91.60-91.70c; July, 90.90-91.00c; Oct, 86.30 bid-86.40c asked; Dec, 82.70-82.75c; March, 83.75 bid-84.00c asked; May, 84.25 bid-84.50c asked; July, 84.75 bid-85.50c asked.

SUGAR FUTURES.—Prices closed 1.10 to 0.05 cent higher. The May recovered to 25.32 cents from a new low of 23.50 cents, prompting a key reversal. March, 24.85-25.00c; May, 25.25-25.40c; July, 25.35c; Sept, 24.70-24.75c; Oct, 24.50-24.60c; Jan, 23.00c bid; March, 23.40c; May, 23.40c.

COFFEE futures closed a fairly quiet trade with pared gains of 1.05 cents in spot March at 120.21 cents a lb and of 1.56 to 1.13 cents in other traded contracts. March, 120.10-120.50c; May, 125.50-125.90c; July, 128.25-128.50c; Sept, 131.00-131.40c; Dec, 130.50-130.70c; March, 139.75c; May, 129.75c bid; July, 135.00-140.00c asked.

COCOA futures slipped from best levels in late trading to close $21 to $29 higher. Spot March eased from $1,842 to settle at $1,834, up $29.—March, $1,840-1,795; May, $1,929-1,900; July, $1,992-1,975; Sept, $2,050-2,035; Dec, $2,130-2,115; March, $2,147-2,195.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS.—Futures closed just off day's highs, up 10½ to 15 cents per bushel in an 11 to 13 cent range. Oil futures ended up 0.18c to 0.30c a lb. SOYABEANS.—March, 763½-750c; May, 792-779c; July, 816½-805c; Aug, 823½-810½c; Sept, 829-817c; Nov, 842-827½c; Jan, 860-846c; March, 881-873c. SOYABEAN OIL.—March, 24.20-24.22c; May, 25.15-25.05c; July, [illegible] Aug, 26.25c; [illegible] Dec, 26.70c; [illegible] 27.10c; March [illegible]. SOYABEAN MEAL.—March, 2158.0; May, [illegible] 233.20; Aug, [illegible] Oct, $239.80-[illegible] 244.00; Jan, [illegible]

CHICAGO GRAINS.—[illegible] closed at or [illegible] crop, up 1¾ [illegible] Corn futures [illegible] highs in new [illegible] bushel. WHEAT.—[illegible] May, 476-471 [illegible] Sept, 493-48[illegible] March, 536-[illegible] 563½-560c; M[illegible] 585½-582c; S[illegible] 585-581c; Mar[illegible] March, 233½-[illegible] July, 223-220[illegible] 230½-227c.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot 2.3900 (2.3660); three months, 2.3415 (2.3875); Canadian dollar 1.1984 (1.2025).

The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 427.90 (423.11). The futures index was 442.55 (438.99).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 933.36 [illegible]; 393.67 [illegible]; (107.82); 65 [illegible]. New York [illegible] composite, 72.[illegible] 84.58 (85.91); [illegible] (72.37); [illegible] financial, 65.3[illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Authorized Unit Trusts

Charities Charitable Narrower-Range Fund.
15 Moorgate, London, EC2. 01-638 4121

Lloyds Bank Unit Trust Managers.
Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, W Sussex 01-623 1288

Schroder Unit Trust Managers Ltd.
48 St Martin's Lane, WC2N 4EP. 01-240 3434

Irish Life Assurance.
11 Finsbury Sq, London, EC2. 01-628 8253

Prudential Pensions Ltd.
Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222

Offshore and International Funds

Stock Exchange Prices

Blue chips in demand

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 9. Dealings End, Feb 27. § Contango Day, March 2. Settlement Day, March 9

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



BRITISH FUNDS

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
SHORTS							
99⅝	89	Treas	9¾% 1981	99⅝	+1/32	9.785	13.317
99⅜	91	Exch	8½% 1981	98⅝	+1/16	8.365	13.023
98 11/16	91	Exch	9¼% 1981	98 11/16	+1/16	9.626	12.693
95⅞	85½	Exch	3% 1981	95⅞	• ..	3.129	11.933
100¼	93 15/16	Exch	12¾% 1981	100 3/16	+1/16	12.726	12.419
97	88	Treas	8½% 1980-82	97	+⅛	8.762	12.123
95	81⅝	Treas	3% 1982	94⅞	-⅛	3.163	8.574
102⅝	90½	Treas	14% 1982	101 13/16	•-⅛	13.751	13.143
95½	85⅜	Treas	8¼% 1982	95½	+⅛	8.635	11.834
95¾	85¾	Exch	9¼% 1982	95¾	•+⅛	9.661	12.287
94 5/16	84⅜	Exch	8¼% 1983	94 5/16	+⅛	9.254	12.078
89	76½	Exch	3% 1983	88⅞	..	3.376	9.235
99 1/16	85¾	Treas.	12% 1983	99 1/16	•+3/16	12.112	12.540
93⅝	84⅛	Treas	9¼% 1983	93⅝	+5/16	9.878	12.413
102⅞	94¼	Exch	13½% 1983	101 5/16	+⅛	13.293	12.790
93⅞	84⅛	Exch	10% 1983	93⅝	+5/16	10.682	12.766
86¾	76⅜	Fund	5½% 1982-84	86¾	..	6.340	10.954
97 1/16	86⅞	Exch	11¼% 1984	96¼	•+⅛	11.687	12.801
104 5/16	94½	Exch	14% 1984	102⅜	+⅛	13.626	12.922
79½	68¾	Exch	3% 1984	79½	-⅛	3.773	10.463
99⅝	88	Treas	12% 1984	97¾	•+1/16	12.276	12.791
109¾	97⅜	Treas	15% 1985	106¾	•+⅛	14.052	12.786
74¼	68 15/16	Treas	3% 1985	74¼	..	4.041	10.712
MEDIUMS							
103¾	99½	Exch	12¼% 1985	97½	+⅛	12.564	12.955
97⅞	93½	Exch	11¾% 1986	96¼	•+⅛	12.328	13.061
89⅞	78⅞	Treas	8½% 1984-86	86⅞	-⅛	9.901	12.166
105⅝	90⅝	Exch	13¼% 1987	101⅛	+⅛	13.223	13.196
81½	70¾	Fund	6½% 1985-87	80⅜	+⅛	8.269	11.422
97¼	91⅞	Treas	12% 1987	97¼	+⅛	12.824	13.485
81	71⅞	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	79⅜	+⅛	9.838	12.407
65	54⅞	Trans	3% 1978-88	65	+⅛	4.647	9.900
93	82⅞	Treas	11½% 1989	89⅞	+¼	12.900	13.631
68¾	57¾	Treas	5% 1986-89	66¾	-⅛	7.605	11.505
104¼	89⅜	Treas	13% 1990	99⅝	-⅛	13.350	13.516
82	69½	Treas	8¼% 1987-90	78⅞	+½	10.672	12.430
96¾	81⅞	Treas	11¾% 1991	89⅞	-⅛	13.263	13.936
68	57½	Fund	5¾% 1987-91	66½	+⅛	8.944	11.919
92¾	77⅝	Exch	11% 1991	87⅞	-⅛	13.060	13.879
102⅜	86⅝	Treas	12¾% 1992	94⅜	+⅛	13.617	13.903
96⅜	74⅜	Treas	10% 1992	80⅛	+⅛	12.488	13.542
109½	84⅛	Exch	12¼% 1992	90⅝	•+⅛	13.545	13.951
104¾	94¼	Exch	13½% 1992	96	•+⅛	13.915	14.032
100⅛	84⅜	Treas	12½% 1993	93¼	+⅛	13.606	13.996
66¾	54⅜	Fund	6% 1993	61⅞	•+⅛	9.723	11.966
107⅝	92⅜	Treas	13¾% 1993	101⅛	+⅛	14.044	14.106
115	96½	Treas	14½% 1994	102⅛	•+⅛	14.165	14.092
104¼	95⅛	Exch	13½% 1994	100⅝	+⅛	14.030	14.134
100⅛	85½	Exch	12½% 1994	91⅛	+⅛	13.724	13.995
81¼	69½	Treas	9% 1994	73¾	+⅛	12.198	13.167
102⅜	87⅛	Treas	12% 1995	89⅜	+⅛	13.570	13.907
50¼	42¼	Gas	3% 1990-95	50¼	+⅛	6.053	9.638
86⅞	72⅝	Exch	10¼% 1995	79⅝	+⅛	12.964	13.627
LONGS							
98⅝	81⅛	Treas	12¾% 1995	96¾	+⅛	13.746	13.918
109¾	94⅛	Treas	14% 1996	106½	-⅛	13.105	14.121
81⅜	67⅝	Treas	9% 1992-96	72⅜	•+⅛	12.267	13.116
119¾	99⅜	Treas	15¼% 1996	111⅛	+⅛	14.330	14.202
106	89⅛	Exch	13¼% 1996	99¼	+⅛	13.857	13.952
50¾	41¼	Rdmptn	3% 1986-96	49⅝	+⅛	6.194	9.345
105⅛	88⅝	Treas	13¼% 1997	98⅞	+⅛	13.880	13.970
87⅞	74⅝	Exch	10½% 1997	79¾	-⅛	13.175	13.661
80⅛	65⅞	Treas	8¾% 1997	71⅛	•-⅛	12.233	12.989
69⅞	54⅝	Treas	6¾% 1995-98	60⅞	+⅛	11.176	12.361
121⅝	101	Treas	15½% 1998	114½	+⅛	14.314	14.200
99⅛	83	Exch	12% 1998	90⅞	-⅛	[illegible]	13.871
89⅜	69⅝	Treas	9½% 1999	76	-⅛	12.668	13.170
101½	82⅝	Exch	12¼% 1999	89⅝	•+⅛	13.659	13.820
98⅛	77⅜	Treas	10½% 1999	82⅝	+⅛	13.230	13.584
104	92⅝	Treas	13% 2000	95⅜	+⅛	13.839	13.910
110⅞	94⅛	Treas	14% 1998-01	102⅞	..	14.098	14.103

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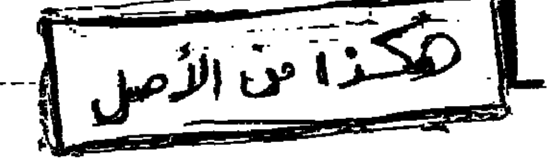
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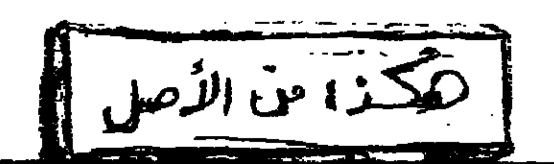
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LEGAL NOTICES

No 002751 of 1980
In the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Companies Court. In the Matter of TENAPLAS Limited and in the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that by an Originating Summons dated 11th September 1980 the Liquidator of the above-named Company ("the Company") which is being wound up voluntarily has applied to the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Companies Court, for an order that with effect from the date of such Order the Liquidator be at liberty to distribute the assets of the Company remaining in his hands to and amongst the creditors of the Company without paying, or making any provision out of such assets for the payment of, any debts or claims which were not on or before the date of the Order been notified to the Applicant. The said Originating Summons is due to be heard by the Court on Thursday, 4th June, 1981.

Any person claiming to be a creditor of the Company should send his name and address, particulars of his claim against the Company and the name and address of his solicitors (if any) in writing addressed to the Liquidator, Tenaplas Limited, Lee House, London Wall, London, EC2Y 5AX so as to arrive not later than 3rd June, 1981. If the Order sought in the said Originating Summons is made, the Liquidator will be entitled to disregard any claim notified to him after 3rd June, 1981, when distributing the remaining assets of the Company amongst the creditors of the Company.

12th February, 1981.

J. P. BENBOW, Liquidator.
Lee House,
London Wall,
London, EC2Y 5AX.

BLACKMAN & CONRAD (SALES) LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of BLACKMAN & CONRAD (SALES) Limited, will be held at the offices of LEONARD CURTIS & CO., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Thursday the 5th day of March 1981 at 3.00 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 16th day of February 1981

D. ALDERMAN
Director

In the matter of BONTUNE WOODWORKING Limited and in the matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 27th day of March, 1981, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned KEITH DAVID GOODMAN, FCA, of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 13th day of February, 1981.

K. D. GOODMAN,
Liquidator.

Re: ERNE TRANSPORT (BROWNHILLS) LIMITED (In Voluntary Liquidation) and the COMPANIES ACT, 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before the 20th March, 1981, to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the undersigned Bernard Phillips, FCA of Bernard Phillips & Co. 76 New Cavendish Street, London, W1M 8AH, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts as proved.

Dated this 6th day of February, 1981.

BERNARD PHILLIPS, FCA,
Liquidator

BARON MARTIN Limited.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of BARON MARTIN Limited, will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Thursday the 5th day of March 1981 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 16th day of February 1981.

D. ALDERMAN,
Director.

In the matter of RAYMOND MILES CONTRACTORS LIMITED and in the matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company, which is being VOLUNTARILY WOUND UP, are required, on or before the 25th day of March, 1981, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned KEITH DAVID GOODMAN, FCA, of 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 11th day of February, 1981.

K. D. GOODMAN,
Liquidator.

In the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948, WICKES BUILDING SUPPLIES Limited.

Notice is hereby given that the order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 2nd February 1981 confirming the REDUCTION of the CAPITAL from £300,000 to £150,000 of the above-named Company and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-named Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 11th February 1981.

Dated this 20th day of February 1981.

HERBERT SMITH & CO.,
Watling House,
35-37 Cannon Street,
London, E.C.4.
Solicitors for the said Company.

LYBRO Limited.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of LYBRO LIMITED will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Tuesday the 3rd day of March 1981 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 13th day of February 1981

D. ALDERMAN,
Director.

Re: S. L. N. & W. BUILDERS LIMITED (In Voluntary Liquidation) and the COMPANIES ACT, 1948.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company are required on or before Friday, 13th March, 1981 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the undersigned Bernard Phillips, FCA, of Bernard Phillips & Co., 76 New Cavendish Street, London, W1M 8AH, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts as proved.

Dated this 3rd day of February, 1981.

This notice is purely formal and according to available figures all creditors claims have been or will be paid in full.

BERNARD PHILLIPS, FCA,
Liquidator

Re: K.J.H. (WHOLESALE MEATS) Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation) and THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

Notice is hereby given that the CREDITORS of the above named Company are required on or before 20th March, 1981 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their Debts or Claims to the undersigned Bernard Phillips, F.C.A., at Bernard Phillips & Co., 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 8AH, the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator are to come in and prove their said debts or claims at such time or place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such Debts are proved.

Dated this 5th day of February, 1981.

BERNARD PHILLIPS
(Chartered Accountant).

Re: LAURA NICHOLS LIMITED and THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above named Company will be held at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 8AH on Thursday, the 19th February, 1981, at 2.30 in the afternoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 294 and 295 of the said Act.

Dated this 5th day of February, 1981.

P. G. PAVLOU
Director.

FASHION INDUSTRIES (HARTLEPOOLS) LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a Meeting of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Tuesday the 3rd day of March 1981 at 3.00 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 13th day of February 1981

D. ALDERMAN
Director

EDUCATIONAL

CHEMISTRY tutor required for "A" level student. SW10 area. 01-352 8064, one or two eves pw. Conditions neg.

THE TIMES is running a full page feature on Educational/Business courses on Feb 25. Call Stella Scrivener for details. 01-278 9351.

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MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

CLWYD COUNTY COUNCIL

Issued 17 February, 1981, £2.0m Bills due 19 May @ 12.11/32%. Applications £8.5m. Total outstanding £6.0m.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

LONDON BOROUGH OF REDBRIDGE BILLS

£1m Bills issued 10.2.81. Maturing 12.5.81. At 12.4687%. Applic. Tot. £m. £5,200,000 Bills outstanding.

PUBLIC NOTICES

MIDLANDS ELECTRICITY BOARD

Electric Lighting Act, 1909, Electricity Acts, 1947 and 1957. The Electricity (Publications of Applications) Regulations 1957.

Proposal to establish an electricity generating station as part of a combined heat and power scheme on land at Fort Dunlop.

Notice is hereby given that application has been made by the Midlands Electricity Board to the Secretary of State for Energy to vary the application dated 24th April 1980 referred to in the notice dated 23rd May 1980 by substituting for the land identified in the notice dated 23rd May 1980 other land at Fort Dunlop, Erdington in the District of Birmingham in the County of West Midlands, Ordnance Sheets SP 1290 and SP 1390 at National Grid reference SP 132903.

A copy of the application dated 24th April 1980 and the application for variation and plans showing the original site and the revised site and other particulars have been deposited for public inspection at: (a) the offices of the Birmingham District Council, The Council House, Birmingham (b) the offices of the Midlands Electricity Board at George Road, Erdington, Birmingham (c) the shop of the Midlands Electricity Board, 67 High Street, Erdington, Birmingham (d) the shop of the Midlands Electricity Board, 171-173 Alum Rock Road, Alum Rock, Birmingham.

Any person wishing to object to the application should send written particulars of the objection to the Secretary of State for Energy, Electricity Division, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ to reach him not later than 16th March 1981 and is requested to send a copy of the objection to me.

Dated this 6th day of February 1981.

P. CUTHILL
Secretary

PO Box No 8
Mucklow Hill
Halesowen
West Midlands B62 8BP.

NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION

Charity — Mill Hill School Fund, Barnet; Institute Fund, Barnet; Toynbee Hall Fund, Tower Hamlets; Ripon Hall Fund and Wadham College Fund, Oxfordshire

The Charity Commissioners propose to make a SCHEME for this charity. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from them (ref. 213106-A1-L2) at 14 Ryder Street, London, SW1Y 6AH. Objections and suggestions may be sent to them within one month from today.

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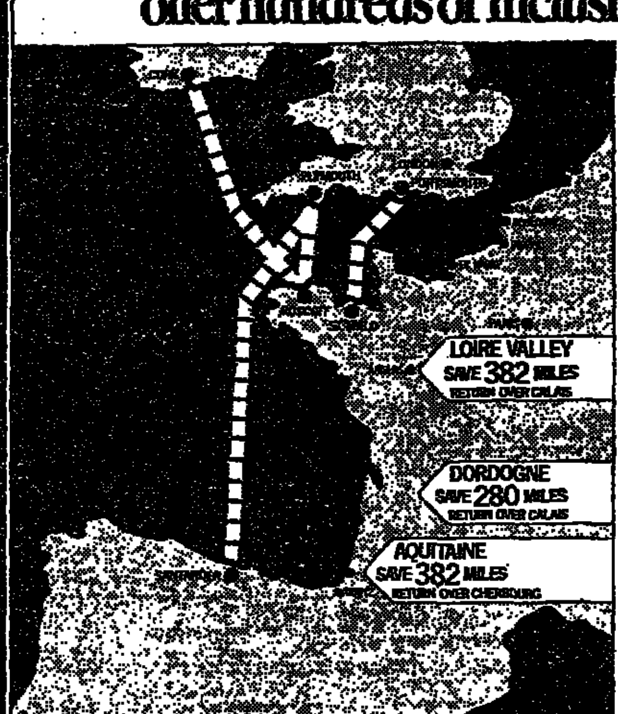
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Soaking up the sun and mud baths in Romania

There's nothing quite like it for cooling the blood. Two baths are filled with hot water saturated with minerals. Into one of them a friendly but firm woman in white overalls empties a bucket of black slime. The water looks as if a rugby pack has just left it. In this tub of dark, warm, slippy fluid the body is meant to revive. Grit and small shells scratch the skin.

Mud baths are only part of the treatment which a visitor to the Black Sea resorts in Romania can expect. The Romanians are very keen on healthiness and the hospitals and clinics on the coast claim to be able to cure everything from high blood pressure to halitosis by methods which in Britain we politely call quackery.

There is great emphasis on water, soaking and floating. Electric currents are applied at low voltage. Exercise is important and whole swimming pools can be filled with people playing an energetic Simon Says. Whether it all works or not, it is impossible to say Like a stall at the end of the pier, a single mud bath is for amusement only. The treatment works for those who believe in it.

Fringe medicine is less of a draw to visitors to Romania than the sun and sea. There are modern resorts, rather austere and purposeful, like a well ordered council estate, which are designed for family holidays. A Romanian resort offers a safe beach, good bathing, hotels close to the sea and very little to waste money on. The Black Sea has no tide, which can make the sand rather grubby, and the Romanians have discovered pop music, which makes a communal beach insufferable. But all in all, Romania offers a more exotic holiday than usual with good value for money.

Away from the coast Romania is more interesting. In the capital, Bucharest, there are some fine Victorian buildings and some admirably old fashioned restaurants and bars. Most fascinating for a Communist country, however, is the widespread practice of religion. Romania has one of the most devoted Christian communities in the world. An Orthodox church close to the vegetable market in Bucharest is constantly busy.

The priest and his assistants are out of sight behind a gilt screen. The air is *heavy with incense, the* smell of lighted candles and the sound of unaccompanied singing. There is steady genuflexion and the faces of the icons have been worn away by kisses. All ages are present, dropping in from work.

Up in the mountains, to the south of Transylvania, there are resorts which look as artificial as Switzerland. The wooden building is similar, if slightly more heavy, and there are lodges for long distance skiing in winter or hiking in the summer. It is like the Ruritanian republic of *The Prisoner of Zenda,* a fact which, when it comes to the legend of Dracula, the Romanians are happy to exploit.

Bram Stoker, the Irish author of the vampire story, had never been to Romania yet, with the help of books and atlases, he wrote as if he had. There are various historic stories, about Vlad the Impaler and others, which fitted the Stoker myth. Hence there has developed a dedicated tourist tradition of visiting likely Dracula sites.

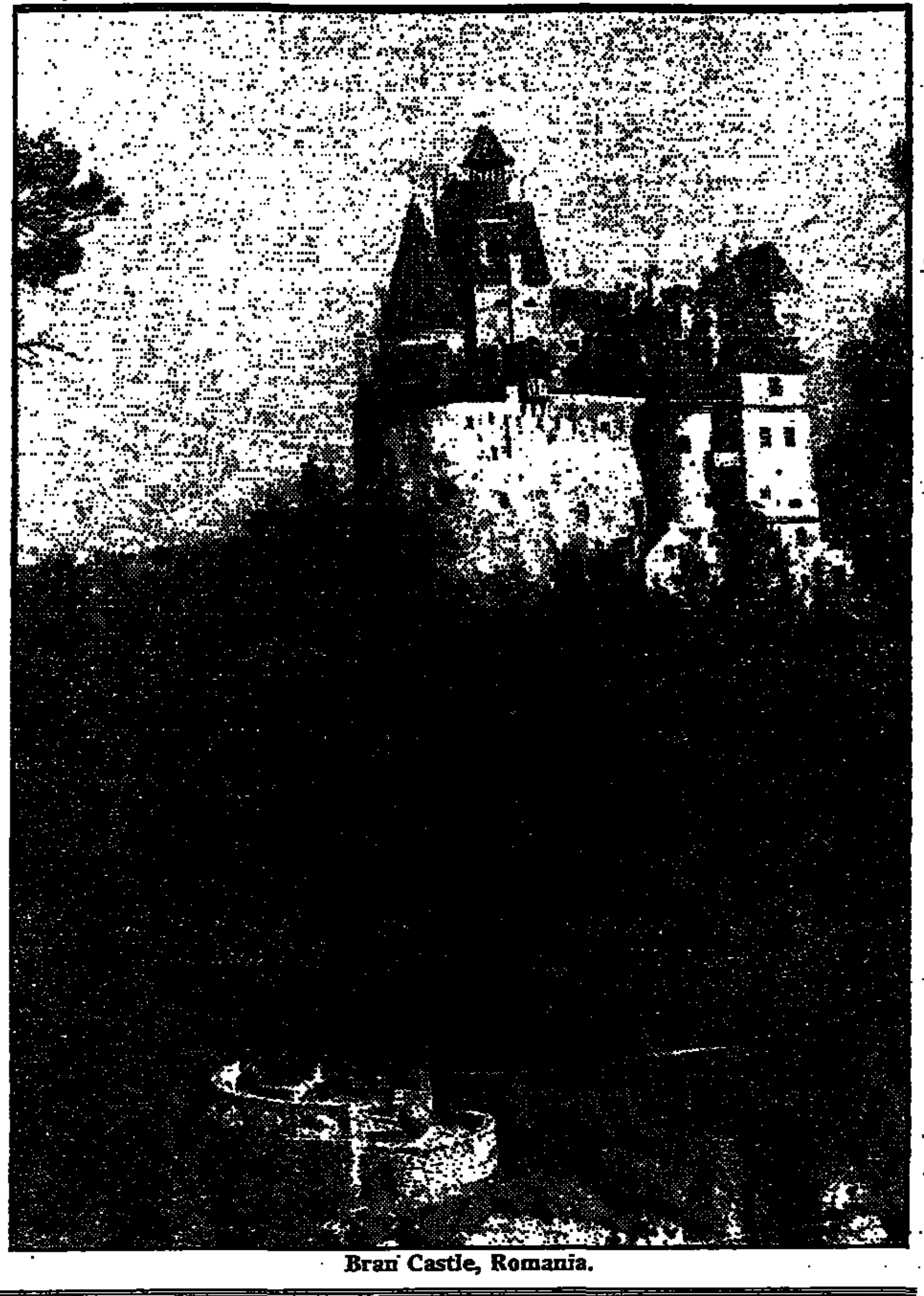
The Romanians are in two minds about this interest in their history. They welcome the money which the tourists bring, so they are happy to turn a blind eye. But they have also become rather fond of Vlad who, as the successful liberator of various parts of their land, has become a national hero they like to promote and protect.

They show the ghoulish visitor Bran Castle, a former royal residence. It has a massive front door with a booming knocker, a tight courtyard with a deep well and overlooking turrets. It is a forbidding place, made the more eerie by a secret staircase lit by candles.

At the foot of the high rock stack on which it is built there is a door which leads to the castle via a dark and dank passage. And for those with good imaginations, the bats appear to give a knowing wink.

How to get there: Intasun, from £139 a week at the sea, from £203 for a two-week sea and mountain holiday (full board).

Nicholas Wapshott



Bran Castle, Romania.

So bracing, to discover the joys of the Scilly Isles

Mile upon mile of empty beaches *basking under a hot* summer sun. Seas which are as clean as one could wish, thanks to the influence of the surging Atlantic. A solitary main street where you could sit down in the middle of the road on a July afternoon, if you were so minded, and read a book with little fear of holding up the virtually non-existent traffic. Yet you are only 30 miles or so away from the thickest *of holiday crowds whose* eyes—perhaps fortunately—have not raised themselves to wonder what lies just over the horizon.

So where are you? On an undiscovered Caribbean island, or in the Bahamas, perhaps? Aquitaine? Or the south-west coast of Portugal?

No. These sandy beaches and sparkling seas fringe our own Isles of Scilly—100 islands and islets scattered just off the coast of Land's End. And the odd thing about the Isles of Scilly is that, although they earn their living largely from tourism, they remain strangely untouched by it.

After a day or two on the islands the reason for this lack of despoliation and the absent crowds becomes clear. Only five of the Isles of Scilly are inhabited, and they have only eight hotels between them.

So the handful of shops in the main street of Hugh Town, capital of the largest island, St Mary's, are never busy. And there is also plenty of room on the excursion boats which leave the harbour every day for the glorious—and almost empty—beaches of the "off islands".

It all helps to make the Isles of Scilly a magical place; a place in which you can almost feel yourself shedding the cares of the workaday world. A writer called Robert Heath summed it up when he described the islands thus: "The earth, or soil, is like that of Cornwall; but, the air here is much wholesomer than the air of that county, being so brisk and healthful that sickness is very seldom known among the inhabitants."

While one might criticize Mr Heath's grammar, one cannot fault the accuracy of those words which were written more than two centuries ago, in 1750. Heath's guide book, the first to the islands, has now been reprinted and is on sale in the Scillies, and anyone buying it will be struck by how up-to-date it still is. And the message is clear enough: the Isles of Scilly are not only magical; they are a place where time itself seems to stand still.

I cannot speak for the health of today's inhabitants, of course—although they look well enough. But the clean air of the Atlantic does sweep over these islands, and the sun often *seems to be shining on them* when the rest of Britain is blanketed by cloud. Perhaps that is just as well, for there is nothing else to do on the islands except swim, sunbathe and walk—none of them activities which can be recommended on a rainy day.

At least, *almost* nothing else. There is the occasional disco on St Mary's, but it was not disco week when I was there last July and I inquired anxiously for some alternative form of evening entertainment. A tourism official scratched her head and thought for a few moments, then volunteered: "Well, there is a slide show in the church hall tonight. That is usually very good."

Actually, it was quite good—although I have wondered since just how much of my enjoyment was due to the fact that I had no choice anyway. *Some of the pubs* also go in for musical entertainment of the raucous variety—but for the most part the night life in the Isles of Scilly consists of a second cup of after-dinner coffee and an early bedtime.

That, plus its unique setting, is no doubt why the Dungeon Bar of the Star Castle Hotel, on St Mary's, is such a popular evening rendezvous. The hotel really is a converted castle, and is privately owned. You can dine there too; the meals are superb, as long as you were not expecting an *à la-carte* menu.

On St Mary's, a bus tours the island beaches at regular intervals, taking a circular route starting and ending in Hugh Town. The town itself is built on a very narrow strip of land, and sometimes seems to be the only thing preventing St Mary's from splitting itself into two, but that does mean that there are two very handy centrally-situated beaches, Town Beach and Porthcressa Beach, which are the most popular in the Scillies. Porthcressa, a south-facing expanse of clean, yellow sand, is—I suspect—where many holidaymakers settle for the duration.

But, particularly on those golden days which seem peculiar to the Isles of Scilly, other people prefer to head for the harbour where local boats wait to run excursions to neighbouring Tresco. There, the famous Abbey Gardens are not to be missed. But see, too, the stunning beaches of the "off islands" like Bryher (now boasting its own new hotel) and Samson. These excursions are not expensive: the return trip to Tresco, for example, costs less than £1.

Tresco, the principal island in the group after St *Mary's, is ringed by sand* dunes and is—if that is possible—even quieter than its neighbour. The Island Hotel can be recommended (*not that you have any* choice; it is the only hotel on the island), and once again there are boat excursions to the other islands.

The Abbey Gardens really are something special. Set out among the trees on a sheltered, south-facing hillside, they contain neatly-labelled, semi-tropical plants and shrubs from all over the world. Fortunately, frosts are rare in this corner of Britain.

But then nature has blessed the Isles of Scilly. For botanists and bird-watchers alike they are idyllic—the home of a unique variety of ling, a number of wild flowers unknown on the mainland, and such winged rarities as the avocet, the golden oriole, snow buntings, shrikes and skuas.

And if you do not know the first thing about plants and birds, the islands are still a wonderful spot to explore, and to relax. They are also surprisingly cheap. Staying at the Star Castle Hotel, full board, costs about £15 a day. Besides the hotels, there are plenty of low cost boarding houses, and there is also some very good, modern self-catering accommodation—although this tends to get snapped up early by visitors.

Many youngsters choose to camp on the islands, which at about £1 per night on an organized site can be ideal if the weather is good. There are sites on Bryher, St Agnes and St Martin's, as well as on St Mary's.

Bar lunches in the pubs in the main street of St Mary's cost about £1, and are excellent value. Such necessities apart, the is not much to spend your money on. To holiday on the Isles of Scilly is to opt for the simple life. Or, as Robert Heath put it: "Here nature acts without disguise; here she uses no false or glaring *colours to dazzle the eyes of* the spectator; truth appears in its native simplicity, unadorned with metricious embellishments and beautiful in its own nackedness."

They do not write travel books like that any more. And they do not make resorts like the Isles of Scilly, either.

How to get there: Brymon Airways fly between St Mary's and Newquay, with connexions to and from London (Heathrow), Birmingham and Aberdeen (single fare from London to St Mary's £46.50). A regular British Airways helicopter service *links St Mary's with British* Rail at Penzance (£16.50 single). And the ferry boat Scillonian III, whose shallow draught ensures that she rolls in all but the calmest sea, runs a daily service between Penzance and St Mary's which is popular with day-trippers. The tourist information centre for the Scillies is at the Town Hall, St Mary's.

Robin Mead

The trouble with tickets on the cheap

The first time I ever bought an airline ticket from a bucket shop the establishment concerned was at the top of several flights of rickety stairs in a corner of Covent Garden which had clearly seen better days.

I handed over my £387 and was given two sets of *tickets which purported to* promise me a return trip to Hongkong, stopping off in Bangkok. In the event, I reached everywhere I had planned to and suffered but one delay. It was in Amman where King Hussein of Jordan was late in boarding the plane and spent a large part of the flight apologizing personally to the other passengers for the hold-up.

My experience is likely to be typical of most bucket shop travellers—the trouble-free flight, I mean. Meetings with royalty cannot be guaranteed. But with the tremendous growth in cheap scheduled airline tickets through such cut-price shops recently, it is worth bearing in mind a few points about buying them.

Airlines provide tickets to bucket shops because they have spare seats. This casual fact has led to a number of operators putting together the most fanciful routes, sometimes involving two or more airlines, at prices which cannot be matched by normal travel agents.

The first rule for anyone wanting to buy such a ticket is to shop around. Prices vary greatly according to which airlines the shops use and the dates you wish to fly. When you have found what you consider to be the right price, ask the shop to provide you with a written itinerary for the route with the name of the airlines carrying you.

It pays to study this carefully. You may find that a flight which is £20 cheaper leaves you stranded for half a day at some god-forsaken airport before your next flight. Airports are the same the world over, to be avoided.

At the risk of sounding like a Cold War warrior, I would advise people to think seriously before accepting any routing involving Aeroflot, cheap as they usually are.

The Russian airline is not bad, when it flies. But it is notorious for delays and even more notorious for the offhanded way it treats the victims of those delays. It is not unknown for passengers from London travelling through Moscow to India to be returned to London from Russia when they, through no fault of their own, have missed their connexion.

Check your tickets before paying. The most important part is the small box marked "Status". Ensure that it is marked "OK". If there is anything else marked there, demand an explanation from the shop; you could be travelling standby.

Finally, the question of restrictions. Many bucket shop tickets preclude stopovers and changes of itinerary. If the bucket shop tells you that yours does not, check later with the airline concerned that they are right, and reconfirm early.

All of these comments apply to scheduled flights. Many of the cheap tickets on offer for European destinations are for charter flights taking package holidaymakers abroad. These should present travellers with no problems, though it is worth remembering that charter tickets are normally totally inflexible. Miss the *plane and you have lost your* money.

David Hewson

Holidays to suit all in a family spanning three generations

It is not only the presence, or threat, of strikes and go-slows which can put a holidaymaker off travelling abroad. Special needs within one's own party can be equally restricting: young children, pets, disabled persons have special problems which can often only be solved by staying in Britain.

There are several publishing houses which produce booklets aimed at such holidaymakers. Herald Advisory Services (23a Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey) produce two booklets, *Pets Welcome!* and *Children Welcome!* These are guides to holiday accommodation throughout Britain and the Channel Islands which, as their titles suggest, welcome children of all ages and the family's animals. *Pets Welcome!* also has a section at the back listing dog and cat kennels and another of pony trekking and riding holidays.

Jonathan Lewis's *Family Holiday Guide* is a larger book recommending holidays in hotels, holiday centres, flats, cottages, farms, caravans and boats. As with the above two publications, the accommodation is listed by area, but it has a greater number of advertisements to tempt any potential visitors. This book is obtainable from Lewis Publications Ltd, 31 Castle Street, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, KT1 1ST, tel: 01-549 7688, Price 75p.

In this International Year for the Disabled, some companies are promoting special holidays with escort services. *The Chalfont Line* provides holidays in many countries for disabled people and their friends. The brochure and other details are available from 4 Medway Parade, Perivale, Middlesex, tel: 01-998 2143/6516.

The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (REHAB) produces a book entitled *Holidays for the Physically Handicapped.* It is not aimed solely at those people with restricted mobility but also at those other disabilities, such as blindness, epilepsy and dietary problems. This book, excellent value at 50p, lists hotels and guesthouses by area and includes details of different facilities for particular needs. REHAB, 25 Mortimer Street, London W1N 8AB, tel: 01-637 5400.

This organization also produces a guide to British Rail for the physically handicapped, which has details of facilities available at each station and on the platforms. British Rail themselves also make special arrangements for disabled travellers, provided they are warned in advance and given specific details of the journey to be undertaken.

One tour company which encourages three generations to take their holiday together, and not just the usual two, is *Saga,* which specializes in holidays for the over 60s. Though assuming that most people over 60 are physically restricted in some way is an easy trap to fall into, this is by no means the case as Saga set out to prove. Their plan is called *Take Five,* and it offers activities for all ages on each holiday.

Saga also have holidays for the disabled over 60s, at the Princess Mary House short stay home in Harrogate. Details of *Take Five* from Take Five Holidays, Embrook House, Sandgate *Hill,* Folkestone, *Kent* CT20 3SG, tel: 0303 30401.

Jennifer Teale

Twice a week to Sicily

At a time when airlines are *cutting back on many routes,* Alitalia is beginning direct flights from London to Palermo and Catania in Sicily. Behind the decision to start the new route is the 48 per cent increase in 1980 in British tourists going to Sicily. Most of the 100,000 holidays taken are in the medium to high-priced bracket and the season has extended into the spring and autumn as well as the high summer months, because of the exceptionally mild climate.

The president of Sicily's regional government, Signor Mario D'Acquisto, was in London for the announcement of the launch. Visitors have been discouraged in the past by reports of mafia activity, but Signor D'Acquisto claims that the region is very stable politically, compared with the rest of Italy and has not experienced anything like the modern terrorist *outrages* and *kidnappings* affecting other parts of Italy.

Commenting on complaints about growing violence against tourists and in particular handbag snatching, he maintains that such attacks are confined to the large towns and that they do not affect the tourist areas as such. Nevertheless, *special police surveillance* has been introduced throughout the season to curb this nuisance.

Sicily has many tourist attractions. So far it remains relatively unspoilt with many miles of uncrowded, good beaches and spectacular island scenery. It has a wealth of art treasures, culled from its fascinating history, monuments and museums from the neolithic and Greek periods to the *baroque, and archaeological* sites of great interest. Recently, a British archaeologist, Honor Frost, discovered a Phoenicean ship near Marsala, which rates as a major find.

The new service, which starts on March 29, will operate to each city twice a week on Wednesdays and Saturdays to Catania and Fridays and Sundays to Palermo, in both cases leaving London Heathrow at 14.40. Prices to both cities are the same, though the flight to Catania is 10 minutes longer. Ordinary economy flights are £167 and first class £296 each way. Apex fares, subject to the usual conditions, are £156 return with a higher fare of £171.50 return for the period July 1 to September 30.

Worth a dawn awakening to see Luxor at its best

The sun was shining in London. By the time we got to Dubrovnik it was raining, and after steaming down the Yugoslavian coast, the Athenians were all muffled up in tweeds and wearing boots. A botanical expedition to the slopes of the mountains brought tears to the eyes from the icy winds. *Not* what one expects, but last summer was not quite up to standard from the weather point of view anywhere.

Owing to the custodians' semi-strike, Crete was shut, and it was not till the Orpheus docked in Alexandria that this particular Swan's Hellenic Cruise felt that the warm weather had arrived. The party split into three—those remaining on board ship in Alexandria, those going to Cairo and those who had chosen, as I had, to go to Luxor and the Valley of the Kings.

Cairo seen after a long bus trip was not, perhaps, in full flower. We whipped smartly round to view the Sphinx and the Pyramids, which I was astonished to discover were not in the sands of the desert but in the suburbs, and climbed into one of the Pyramids to listen to one of the worst local guides ever. Brushing off attempts to sell us anything from a very, very genuine antique to a smallish camel, we climbed back into the bus and negotiated the Cairo rush-hour (with goats) to the airport, and a swift trip to Luxor.

Luxor is lovely. I can quite understand why the Edwardian rich used to winter there—I'd winter there myself. There are the Egyptian villages, straight out of the illustrations to a child's Bible. The green stops short at the desert as if ruled off with a pencil and ruler. The modern annexe to the Winter Palace, itself a truly imposing monument, was extremely comfortable. The food, while not good, wasn't bad either. In Luxor you rise with the dawn (a wonderful sight) and take the ferry across the Nile to the ever waiting buses for the Valley, before it gets too hot. Already there were a lot of people there.

Down to the tombs on rather fragile ladders embedded in the earth on rather a steep slope, past miracles of colour and invention, myth and reality. You may have seen the tomb paintings on the television, in paintings and in photographs, but nothing can rival the originals, preserved by the dry air and as bright and fresh as the day they were painted. In such an extraordinary cult of the dead, it is hard to prefer one tomb to another, they are all so beautiful. Fortunately Swans provide an expert as well as the local guides, good though these may be. The gigantic temples at Luxor are truly awe-inspiring, another wonder of the world.

Have I really seen the statue of Memnon, which was supposed to utter a cry at sunrise? Have I seen the face of Ozymandias, King of Kings—yes, I have, if he was Rameses II. Two nights and one day in Luxor weren't enough, though I bought a gallibayeh made to measure between 6 and 9 in the evening. Another dawn saw us en route for Port Said—not a spot I would recommend. It seemed to me to be the remainder capital of the world, apart from some dark, pin-striped suiting, with an additional Lurex thread. "Made in Britain" it said, proudly. Apart from James McClure's fictional Zulu detective, Mickey Zondi, I can't think of anyone who would wear it.

We entrusted ourselves nervously to a rather ramshackle Egyptian bailey bridge to the ship, which had been assembled with many a Laurel and Hardyesque scene, and were off.



A suburban trip to see the Pyramids.

One of the pleasures of a cruise is the variety of the points of call. We visited the southern Turkish cities, Perge and Aspendos, visited rather earlier by St Paul. Aspendos has a huge, almost complete Greek theatre (seats 7,500) and you can hear every word from the 120ft long stage. Enormous sites remain to be excavated. Rhodes was strike-bound on a Sunday, but Cyprus was warm and sunny and welcoming and we looked at the Tombs of the Kings (which *are not tombs and contain* no kings) and some wonderful mosaics. The goats appear to be the result of a mythical encounter between a goat and a red setter—goat shaped, setter coloured, lop eared. This cruise ended in Venice, via Delphi (it rained) and Olympia (it poured). It was a lovely day in Venice, with a two-hour *strike at the airport.* But we all had had a good time.

Later in the year I spent the weekend in Greece, as the guest of Young World Holidays. We went to see Greek Village, their operation in Thassos. Our party didn't fly out with the regular customers, but by a rather more tortuous route which took us overnight to Athens, changing airports (beware Greeks bearing offers of taxis) flying to Thessaloniki, three hours by car to Kavala, ferry to the island of Thassos, and then a short trip to Lemenas. And it *rained.* The rain broke off for a delicious and entirely Greek lunch of bits and pieces, good bread and wine, approximately £13 for eight people. I slept all afternoon.

Unfortunately the barbecue on the uninhabited island of Thassopoula had been rained off, and dinner was a 300 yard dash through a rainstorm of monsoon like fervour. On to the disco? Not I. The next morning was sunny, warm and cloudless, with the local populace gathering for church, a perfect Greek day. We took a trip round the island of Thassos, which is green, *pretty, with lots of uninhabited* beaches, as yet unspoiled (ie not yet thronged with highrise hotels). We visited a white, gleaming monastery (they keep a spare pair of trousers to hide from its Creator the sight of male legs in shorts). Lunch was on the Greek Village beach, in an olive grove, where the holidaymakers *(average age 22) were obviously* enjoying it, swimming, sailing, eating and chatting each other up.

Young World Holidays takes a number of apartments and houses, all with twin rooms. Food is not provided, but there are a large number of small restaurants, tavernas and cafes. After lunch I visited the Acropolis (which belied the Swan description of an Acropolis "*A high mound entirely* covered by tourists") looked at the little Greek theatre (still in use) and wandered round the town and harbour, which was paved with slabs of marble some 2,000 years ago.

Dinner was at a restaurant slightly out of town where we all arrived in buses and had a jolly Greek meal, *a band, and a plentiful* ply of throwing plates. local wine is powerful (its tone described as "[illegible]perative" by one of my [illegible]panions). The advantage of Greek dancing is that [illegible] number can dance—and I couldn't see anyone [illegible] left out.

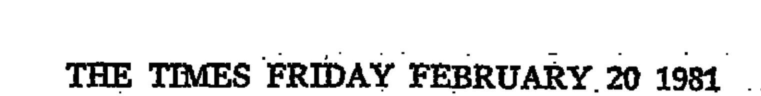
Philippa Too[illegible]

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Greek Village, from £169 for two weeks from [illegible]wick, £10 extra from [illegible]chester. Details from Y[illegible] World Holidays, 29 [illegible] Road, Brighton.

Luxor temple on the Nile.





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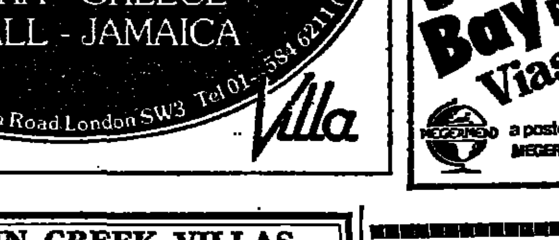
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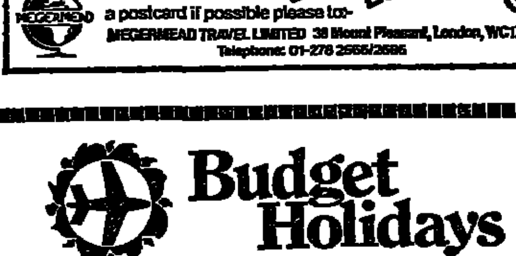
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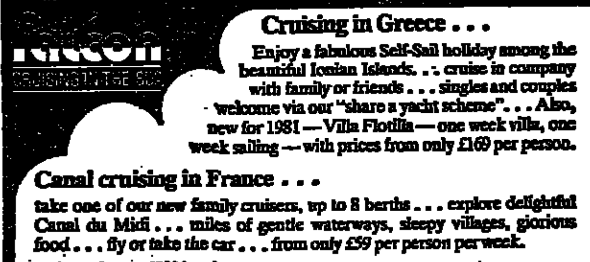
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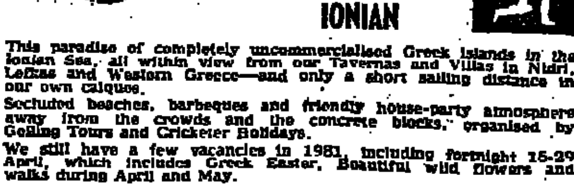
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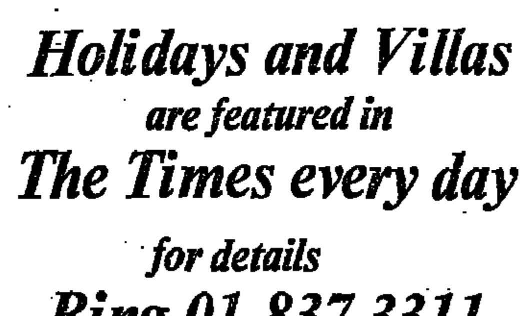
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Motoring

More slimming likely after Linwood axing

Peugeot-Citroën's decision to close the Linwood factory in Scotland, and the merging of the Talbot and Peugeot dealer networks, may be followed by further rationalizations as the biggest car company in Europe tries to come to terms with a shrinking market.

When Peugeot-Citroën took over the former Chrysler operation (now Talbot) in 1978, it created a car-producing capacity of more than two million vehicles a year. With the demand for cars, both here and on the Continent, cut by the recession, much of that capacity is spare and Linwood was an obvious casualty.

Further slimming can be expected, not least on the model front. To run two car ranges, Peugeot and Citroën, side by side, was not illogical since each had a distinctive personality and appeal. To run three is a feat of juggling that even the able Peugeot-Citroën management may find impossible.

So, whither Talbot? The closure of Linwood at least simplifies the line-up by removing the Avenger and Sunbeam. That leaves the Alpine; its booted version, the Solara; and the Horizon. They are all arguably in competition with Peugeot and Citroën models like the 305, 104 and GSA.

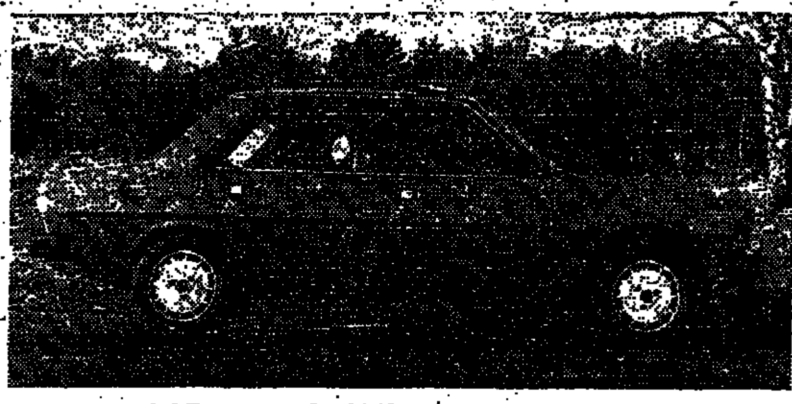
The point is made even more strongly with the arrival of a new Talbot model, the Tagora (which, like Solara, is an invented name). This is the new large car that Chrysler had been developing as the successor to its lacklustre Two Litre. At the time of the takeover, Citroën already had the CX in that part of the market, and Peugeot was soon to launch the 505.

There was a case, had the project not been so far advanced, for cancelling the big Chrysler. Peugeot-Citroën decided it should go ahead, but with substantial changes. The car was unveiled at the Paris Motor Show in October and goes on sale in France at the end of the month; it should reach Britain in right-hand drive form during May.

The Tagora is a conventional three-box saloon, styled by Chrysler/Talbot at Whitley, near Coventry, and bearing a strong resemblance to the Solara. It has the same "six-light" treatment for the side windows and a similar squared off bonnet and tail.

What Peugeot has done is to introduce much of its own hardware—engines, steering, transmission and suspension—and to take the car up market. It could, therefore, compete less with the 505 than the 604, Peugeot's top car; indeed, it is being seen as the 604's eventual successor.

The Tagora has a rear-wheel drive layout and will offer a choice of three engines. The 2.2 litre overhead camshaft unit is derived from the Chrysler two litre, but the others are from Peugeot: the 2.6 litre V6 and the 2.3 litre turbocharged diesel which are both currently used in the 604.



More powerful Peugeot—the 305S.

The 2.2 litre model comes with four or five speed gearbox and the five speed box will be standard on the V6 and the turbo-diesel. The claimed 0 to 60 mph acceleration times range from nine seconds on the V6 to 17 *seconds on the diesel, but I suspect* that the car will be sold more on comfort and refinement, the traditional Peugeot qualities, than speed.

One of the things Peugeot does best (see this week's road test) is ride and it is no surprise to find the Tagora fitted with similar suspension to that of the 604, an all-independent system based on McPherson struts at the front and trailing arms at the back. Brakes are disc/drum on the less powerful versions and all-disc on the V6.

The 2.2 is already in production and it will be the first Tagora model available in Britain. The V6 may get here just *before the end of the year, with* the turbodiesel not expected until 1982.

The Tagora is being launched at a time of general depression in the car market and during what seems to be a discernible trend away from large cars. Which only reinforces the feeling that in Peugeot's scheme of things there might not ultimately *be room for both it and the* Peugeot 604.

Road test: Peugeot 305S

This new top-of-the-range version of Peugeot's medium saloon is a not dissimilar exercise from the Ford Escort XR3 I reviewed last week. Essentially, it is a matter of increasing engine power through a twin choke carburettor and larger valves and upgrading the standard equipment. Being a Peugeot, the process is more discreet and does not extend to spoilers and fancy coachwork.

The 305S is aimed at motorists who appreciate the Peugeot virtues of comfort and quality but want brisker performance. Peugeot has given its 1472 cc engine 20 per cent more power (89 bhp) and 8 per cent more torque, as well as fitting electronic ignition and an automatic choke as aids to easy, reliable starting.

That is exactly the recipe used by Ford on the XR3, although the results are less spectacular. The 0 to 60 mph acceleration time on the 305 has come down from 13 seconds to 12, and the top speed has gone up from 95 mph to 101 mph. The figures tell the story, for while performance, including the important element of top-gear flexibility, is ample for most needs, the car does not feel particularly quick.

The engine is mainly smooth and quiet, apart from developing an unfortunate boom at about 3,500 rpm, which corresponds with 60 mph in top gear. It is possible to drive through the boom, but only by breaking the speed limit. I remember the same failing in other Peugeot models. The *extra power has not been* obtained at the expense of fuel consumption and I obtained an excellent 30 to 36 mpg.

Handling is very much in the French style, which means that drivers who enjoy a crisp, taut feel will have to go elsewhere. Softly sprung, the car rolls perceptibly on corners, though the low-profile tyres specially fitted to the S version hold the road impressively. The steering is light, if a little low geared, the brakes effective and the gearbox nails the lie that smooth changes are incompatible with front wheel drive.

The glory of the Peugeot marque is its quality of ride and the 305 is a reminder of what can be achieved in that area with basically conventional suspension, even if it is independent all-round. Going back to the Escort, Ford could learn a trick or two about how to absorb bumps and contain wallow. There was more road noise than I have experienced on other 305s, probably a consequence of the fatter tyres.

The seats are softly comfortable, though a recent back strain has made me wonder whether the German idea of thinly padded boards may not be better. The interior is pleasantly trimmed, with a tough looking tweed cloth, and gives the feeling of being a notch above the average family saloon.

Just under 14 ft long, the car offers plenty of head and leg-room in the back—partly a consequence of turning the engine sideways and driving the front wheels—with a good boot. It is *also a sensible size for parking.* Despite the conventional three-box shape and good window area the back corners are not visible from the driving seat, though the bumpers are big enough to cope with minor knocks.

The 305S costs £5,495, or £656 more than the ordinary 305. Apart from the more powerful engine, the main justification of the higher price is the better *level of standard equipment* which includes central door locking, electrically operated front windows, sliding steel sunroof, laminated windscreen and tinted glass.

Incidentally, Peugeot is now so sure of its on-line, anti-corrosion process that it is prepared to offer a six-year guarantee. That covers the whole car and is subject only to inspections at two and four years, which should cost the owner a couple of hours labour charges. The guarantee applies to all new Peugeots registered on or after December 1 last year.

Working together

The technical collaboration between Saab in Sweden and Lancia in Italy has so far been mostly in Lancia's favour, for the only model to have benefited from the link has been the Lancia Delta. Saab contributed its expertise to the heating and ventilation system and to rust prevention.

However, the two companies are now involved in the joint development of new models which, while retaining separate identities, will be very much sisters under the skin. The cars could, for instance, share the same floor pan, as well as important mechanical components.

The new Saab will eventually replace the 99/900 range and is likely to be of similar size, but lighter and more economical. It is some way off and may not appear until the second half of the decade. Saab has no intention of producing a smaller car than it presently offers, either with Lancia or by itself. The Lancia now under development with Saab will probably supersede the Beta.

Peter Waymark

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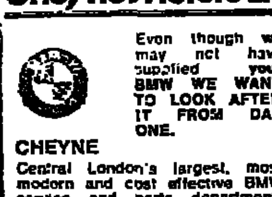
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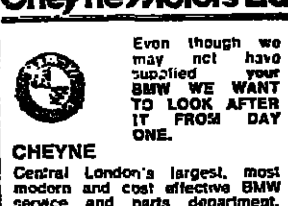
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3. Offer new secondhand pianos for sale at unbeatable prices.
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Albany St., NW1. 01-935 [illegible] Artillery Place, SE18 01-854 4517

VIDEO RECORDERS from [illegible]. The Tops TV Video Centre, all leading makes and [illegible] for quick delivery. [illegible] Sloane St., SW1 01-730 [illegible].

OLD YORK PAVING. Flagstones, [illegible] ing Stone. [illegible]. Roofing Slates. [illegible].

WHO are the best tailors in London? Try Poon & Bradley, [illegible] Clifford St., Savile Row, W1X 2HS Tel. 01-734 [illegible].

HEWLETT-PACKARD 41C [illegible].

SNAFFLES framed prints [illegible]. [illegible] Thomson [illegible] Universal [illegible] 25 Baldon [illegible].

ROSEWOOD BOOKCASE, [illegible]. 7ft high with glazed [illegible] door. Bookcases [illegible] and books bought and [illegible].

NORDIC REJECT SHOP.— [illegible] bathrooms, [illegible].

PRICE LIST of [illegible].

EAGLE, just stuffed, for [illegible] London [illegible].

GRAND PIANO 1930 BROADWOOD [illegible].

GYPSY CARAVAN or [illegible].

MOVIE MAKER.—The [illegible].

WOODWORKER.—The [illegible].

(continued on page [illegible])

PERSONAL CHOICE



hilip Sayer and Mary Maddox who appear in Janey Preger's comedy Bobby Wants to Meet Me (BBC 2, 9.30)

A chat show is a chat show is a chat show; nothing can disguise that fact. But there is at least a semblance of novelty when a general theme is imposed on the talking heads as happens on Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning (BBC 2, 11.30). The theme is Saudi Arabia, and I must say the BBC has gone to some pains to provide tonight's MC, Robert Lacey, with a wide range of representative heads, from the Saudi prince who worked at a Midlands factory and a Saudi woman sans veil to the semi-legendary Glubb Pasha. And Barbara Cartland. A surprising choice? Only if you had forgotten about Valentino the Arab lover whose white steed once carried an apprehensive English rose across the Arabian desert towards a fate not worse than death but more thrillingly romantic.

Janey Preger's play Bobby Wants to Meet Me (BBC 2, 9.30) is about hero worship: pop music journalist thinks he is going to interview his idol Bob Dylan and works himself up into a frenzy. The comedy writing is superficial, the characterization thin. It is redeemed by its final line, but as I cannot tell you what it is, this brief critique of the play is perforce harsher than it should be. . . . The Walls of Jericho (BBC 1, 8.00), which I reported as crumbling away in the early episodes have now been reinforced by improved writing and clearer continuity. The additional cement in the shape of Tom Watson, as Edinburgh's MGH, has also helped to give this tale of Scotland's first woman doctor much-needed stability. . . . I'm afraid Second Chance (ITV, 9.00), a serial about a broken marriage, is beyond repair thanks to its True Love Story writing. But is is bravely played, particularly by Kate Dorning as the daughter. She performs wonders with limited resources.

Tonight's Radio 3 production of Gluck's opera Iphigenia in Tauris (7.00) is the Kent Opera one, sung in English, with Eiddwen Harrhy in the title role . . . Nick Darke's play Landmarks (Radio 4, 3.02), set in rural Cheshire in the 1930s, is joint winner of last year's George Devine Award. It's a story of a rural revolution (tractor replaces horse) and local resistance to it. . . . Michael Charlton continues his series about British diplomacy The Price of Victory (Radio 3, 9.10) with part 4 of last Monday's Bevin at Victoria documentary. A reminder: the period covered by these important programmes is from the final years of the Second World War to de Gaulle's "Non" to Britain's bid for EEC membership. Much archive material, and many newly-recorded interviews.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

7.05 am Open University: Beginning evaluation; 7.30 Time, money and technology. Closedown at 7.55.

9.05 For Schools, Colleges: Treffpunkt: Deutchland; 9.25 Athlete: triple jump; 9.25 Mr Day Helps with a Story; 10.15 Maths-in-a-Box; 10.35 Going to Work: no job yet? 11.02 Hyn o Fyd.

11.25 You and Me: English version of a traditional Vietnamese story.

11.40 For Schools, Colleges: Math File (8); 12.05 pm Sixteen Up: the human factor. Closedown at 12.30.

12.45 Pebble Mill at One: Interview with Roy Plomley about his *successful, long-running, interview-and-music* radio programme Desert Island Discs. Also Peter Seabrook's gardening feature.

1.45 How Do You Do?

2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Consumer right. Also an item on disco competition costumes. Presented by Libby Purvis of the Radio 4 Today programme; 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects. Closedown at 3.00.

3.30 Cywain: for Welsh viewers. A bird's-eye view of Wales. **3.55 Play School:** John Dale's story The First Pennyfarthing. **4.20 Dinky Dog:** cartoon. Phi Beta Dinky. **4.30 Jackanory:** Julie Dawn Cole completes her readings from Dorothy Haas's The Bears Upstairs. Kate Cannig drew the pictures.

4.45 Finders Keepers: Richard Stilgoe referees this schools quiz between West Hove Middle School and Northolt Middle School.

5.10 Grange Hill: serial about a comprehensive school. Time of reckoning for Cathy and her group of truants. **5.35 The Perishers:** with Leonard Rossiter (r).

5.40 News: with John Edmunds.

5.55 Regional news magazines. All regions combine for Nationwide at 6.20. With Alan Titchmarsh's gardening item and Desmond Lynam's Sportswide.

7.00 The Circus World Championships: The finals of the 1980 championships feature artistes from six countries. There are four difefrent categories. Staged in the Robert Brothers' Big Top.

8.00 The Walls of Jericho: Episode 5 of this serial about Scotland's first woman doctor, Sophia Jex-Blake (Sara Kestelman). Tonight, she pioneers some startling developments in trying circumstances. With Tom Watson (see Personal hoice). **8.50 Points of View:** Barry Took takes up some points from viewers' letters.

9.00 News: with Kenneth Kendall.

9.25 Starsky and Hutch: Starsky hides a girl from his fellow police officers (r).

10.15 Time of My Life: Part one of a six-part comedy series. Not only does a man lose his job, but his wife tells him she wants a divorce. With Mark Kingston and Amanda Barrie (r).

10.50 Royal Heritage: Victoria and Albert. The seventh in Huw Weldon's series of films about Britain's royal builders and collectors. Tonight: the treasures of Osborne House, Buckingham Palace and the royal mausoleum at Frogmore.

11.50 Ballroom Champions: The finals of the United Kingdom Ballroom Championships, from the Hammersmith Palais, London. At stake are the Professional Latin American and the Amateur Modern titles. Ends at 12.35 am.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: 1.45 pm-2.02 O Dan Y Mor. 2.02-2.22 I Ysgolion. 3.30-3.55 Closedown. 4.45-5.10 Siams Sionc. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.00-7.30 Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 Y Doctor Kate. 8.00-8.25 Tomorrow's World. 8.25-8.50 Triangle. 10.15-11.05 Week In Week Out. 11.05-11.06 News for Wales. 11.06-12.05 am Royal Heritage. 12.05-1.33 Film: An Eye for an Eye. 1.33 Weather. Scotland: 11.00 am-11.20 For Schools. 12.40-12.45 pm Scottish News. 3.30-3.55 Closedown. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 It's Himself . . . Norman. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.35 am Weather. Northern Ireland: 11.02 am-11.25 Closedown. 3.30 pm-3.53 Close down. 3.53-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.53 am News. England: 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional magazines. 10.15-10.45 East—Weekend. London. South East—The Time of my Life. Midlands—Midlands Tonight. North—Politics North. North East—Coast to Coast. North West—Home Ground. South—Cusden on Location. South West—Parallels. West—The Friars Move On. 12.35 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University. Models in chemistry; 7.05 Date processing in action; 7.30 Symbols and equations. Closedown at 7.55.

11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1 3.55 (The First Pennyfarthing). Closedown at 11.25.

4.50 pm Open University: Introduction to education. 5.15 Accident investigation.

5.40 Charlie Chaplin: Triple Trouble (1918*). Charlie plays the janitor in an inventor's house. Germans are trying to get their hands on one of his formulae.

6.05 Monkey: Tales of Old China, re-told by Japanese TV and dubbed into English.

6.50 Speak for Yourself: Some advice for anyone who is planning to ask his employer for time-off. Intended for all whose first language is not English. 7.15 News. With sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.25 Oxford Road Show: Rob Rohrer and Jackie Spreckley introduce this magazine programme which is aimed at the younger viewer.

8.00 Gardeners' World: First in a new series. A visit to the Channel Islands where the Jersey Horticulture and Agriculture Training Centre demonstrates several methods of growing tomatoes. With Geoffrey Smith.

8.25 What Price Defence? As the new Defence Secretary, John Nott, drafts his defence white paper, Newsweek investigates the cost of Britain's defence policies. Generals, politicians and military analysts are interviewed.

9.00 Call My Bluff: Word guessing game, with Arthur Marshall, Nanette Newman and Paul Eddington versus Frank Muir, Sue Cook and Bryan Forbes.

9.30 Playhouse: Bobby Wants to Meet Me. Comedy, by Janey Preger, about a Bob Dylan fan (Philip Sayer) who is getting ready to meet his idol. (See Personal Choice.)

10.25 Treasures of the Hermitage: An extensive view of the many Rembrandts on view at the famous museum in Leningrad.

10.45 Newsnight. All th main news stories.

11.30 Friday Night . . . Saturday Morning: Tonight's MC is Robert Lacey. It's about Arabia. His guests include a Saudi prince who spent a year working at a Midlands factory; an unveiled Saudi woman; and Sir John Glubb, "Glubb Pasha", architect of the Desert Legion. Also interviewed is Barbara Cartland. (See Personal Choice). Ends at 12.25 am approximately.

THAMES

9.30 For Schools: A museum called New Zealand; 9.58 The young people of Ludlow; 10.15 French: sketches and songs about love; 10.38 Evolution: A-level; 11.02 Stop, Look, Listen; 11.14 Ammy the Lion; 11.26 Maths; 11.43 For the deaf.

12.00 The Magic Ball. A visit to the weatherman. **12.10 Once Upon a Time.** Mark Wynter tells the story of Two Farmers. **12.30 A Better Read.** Bill Grundy's books programme. The theme: sea stories.

1.00 News. 1.20 Thames area news. **1.30 Together.** Block of flats serial. The mystery of what happened to Duggie.

2.00 After Noon Plus. The predicament dealt with today is that of feeling worthless.

2.45 [illegible] the Left (1973). Made-for-TV romantic yarn about a no-longer-young chorus girl (Kim Novak). With Tony Curtis.

4.15 Watch It! Another Dr Snuggles story, and, at 4.20 The Adventures of Black Beauty.

4.45 The Extraordinary People Show: Three youngsters put questions to Kevin Keegan. The presenter is Graham Thornton. **5.15 Clapperboard.** Film clips and behind-the-camera features.

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames area news.

6.30 Thames Sport: the prospects for the weekend.

London Weekend

7.00 Family Fortunes. Prize quiz, compared by Bob Monkhouse. **7.30 Vegas.** The hunt for the killer of a tramp's down-and-out companion.

8.30 The Gaffer. Last in the comedy series about a light-engineering works; with Bill Maynard.

9.00 Second Chance. Serial about a divorced couple (Susannah York, Ralph Bates), their children, and the difficulty of having to carve out a new life (See Personal Choice).

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 Benson. Comedy serial about a governor's black butler (Robert Guillaume). Tonight: chaos when the governor's invalid father pays a visit.

11.00 The London Programme: The Battle for Bermondsey. A report on the internal feuding of the Bermondsey Labour Party where the left is in control. Two important matters are on the agenda: the selection of a new parliamentary candidate, and the selection of candidates for next year's elections to Southwark Council.

11.35 Mannix. A wealthy woman's son disappears, and Mannix (Mike Connors) is hired to find him.

12.30 Close.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News. 6.10 Farming. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Desert Islands. 9.45 Feedback. 10.00 News. 10.02 International Assignment. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Story. 11.00 News. 11.05 Buying a Dream: their first home. 11.50 Natural Selection. 12.00 News. 12.02 pm You and Yours. 12.27 My Music.† 1.00 News. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Play, Landmarks, by Nick Darke (see Personal Choice). 4.15 Poetry up to Now (7). 4.45 Story. The Towers of Trebizond (final part). 5.00 PM. 6.00 News. 6.30 Going Places. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Pick of the Week.† 8.10 Profile: On Valentine's Day—Barbara Cartland. 8.30 Any Questions? 9.15 Letter from America. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 10.00 News. 10.35 Week Ending. 11.00 A Book at Bedtime: The Harpole Report (final part). 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.30 Today in Parliament. 11.45 Miles Kington. 12.00 News. 12.15-12.23 am Weather.

VHF: 9.05 am Schools: Contact; Music Interlude; Country Dancing Stage II (5); Notice Board (2); Music Workshop. 10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother. 11.00-12.00 Schools: Exploring Society; Listening and Writing (5); Prospect. 2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Let's Join In; Religious Education; Music Interlude. 11.00-12.00 STUDY ON 4: Kontakte (17); Allez France! (16).

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Records: Liszt, Haydn, Chopin, Fauré (8.00-8.05 News). Chabrier, J. C. Bach, Mozart, Ibert. 9.00 News. 9.05 Week's composers: Dunstable and Power.† 9.35 Vera Beths (violin): Weber, Berio, Schubert.† 10.20 Sharpam Song-Cycle, by Hugh Ockendon, and Elgar's String Quartet Op 83.† 11.20 Piano: Medtner.† 12.00 Concert, part 1: Sibelius, Myaskovsky.† 1.00 pm News. 1.05 Concert, part 2: Balakirev.† 1.45 Cantatas: Clerambault, Rameau.† 2.25 Piano Suites: Phyllis Tate, Arensky.† 3.05 Chamber music: Haydn and Boccherini.† 4.00 Jan Kapr: Symphony No 8 (Campanae pragenses).† 4.55 News. 5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.† 6.55 Play it Again.† 7.00 Opera. Iphigenia in Tauris, by Gluck. Acts 1 and 2.† (See Personal Choice.) 8.20 Iphigenia in Tauris, Acts 3 and 4.† 9.10 The Price of Victory. (See Personal Choice.) 10.00 Beethoven and Chopin, a recital by John Billingham.† 11.00 News. 11.05-11.15 Record: Giovanni Legrenzi.†

VHF. 5.55 am-6.55 Open University: Handicapped in the Community; Religion as a Universal Phenomenon; Introduction to Imaging. 11.15 pm-12.55 am Open University: The Pre-school Child—You Tell Us; Consumer Decisions—Consumer Groups; Health Choices—Keeping a Balance; The Digital Computer; Great Britain 1750-1950.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 8.00 Sequence Time.† 8.45 Music Night.† 10.00 Castle's on the Air.† 10.30 The Organist. 11.00 Brian Matthew.† 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee Travis. 4.30 Steve Wright. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.30 Anne Nightingale. 10.00-12.00 Rock Show.†

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT): 6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. [illegible] 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Theatre Call. 4.35 Letter from London. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 The Week in Wales. 5.15 Music Now. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 Time Off. 9.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Waveguide. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 Smash of the Day. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Dancers of the Renaissance. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 Book Programme. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 My Word! 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Channel
As London except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Lost in the Desert (Dirkie Hayes). 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Encore. 6.55-7.00 What's on Where. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.28 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05-12.00 SWAT.

Granada
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live from Two. 2.50-4.15 Film: Murcheson's Creek (Mark Edwards). 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Kick Off. 10.30 Week on Friday. 11.00 After All That, This. 11.10-1.45 am Film: Counterfeit Traitor (William Holden).

Westward
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Lost in the Desert (Dirkie Hayes). 4.12-4.15 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.32 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05 SWAT. 12.00-12.05 am Faith for Life.

HTV
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Evil Roy Slade (John Astin). 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 WKRP in Cincinnati. 7.30-8.30 Chips. 10.28 News. 10.35 Report Extra. 11.05 Soap. 11.35-12.05 Camera.

HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.35 am-9.50 Am Gymru. 12.00-12.10 pm Fflabalam. 4.15-4.45 Anialwch Bychan. 5.15-5.45 Muppet Show. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.35-11.05 Outlook.

ATV
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Take My Life* (Hugh Johns, Marius Goring). 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 News. 11.05-1.00 am Film: Frankenstein Must Be Destroyed (Peter Cushing).

Grampian
As London except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Daughters of Joshua Cabe Return (Dan Dailey). 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Police Story. 12.10 am Seachd Laithean. 12.25-12.30 News.

Ulster
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45 Film: Take My Life. 4.13-4.15 News. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Sportscast. 11.05 Benson. 11.35-11.45 Bedtime.

Yorkshire
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: So Long at the Fair* (Jean Simmonds, Dirk Bogarde). 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Hawaii Five-O. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 Snooker. 11.45-12.40 am Lou Grant.

Border
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Man Without a Country (Cliff Robertson, Beau Bridges). 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Golf. 11.25-11.28 News.

Scottish
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Dream Makers (James Franciscus). 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 7.30-8.30 Thingummyjig. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05-12.30 am Film: Prisoner in the Middle (David Janssen).

Tyne Tees
As London except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: Bank Holiday* (Margaret Lockwood). 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.20-7.00 Northern Life. 10.30 News. 10.32 Film: Shaft in Africa. 12.30 am-12.35 Countryside Christian.

Southern
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Carnival of Thieves (Stephen Boyd). 5.15-5.45 Mr and Mrs. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.00 Scene South East. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.35 Better Dead? 11.05 Soap. 11.35 Film: Linus. 1.35 am Weather followed by I Want to be Ready.

Anglia
As London except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film: Run a Crooked Mile (Louis Jourdan). 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 BJ and the Bear. 10.30 7 Days. 11.00 Soap. 11.30 Film: Night and the City* (Richard Widmark). 1.15 am At the End of the Day.

Entertainments Guide

Most credit cards accepted for phone bookings or at the box office.
telephoning use prefix 01 only in the London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COVENT GARDEN 240 1066 "S" Gardencharge cc 836 6903. 65 amphiseats avail. for all perfs. from 10.00 a.m. on the day of perf.

THE ROYAL OPERA
Sat & Tues. at 7.00 Lulu.

THE ROYAL BALLET
Tomor., Mon. & Wed. at 7.30 Mayerling (Tomor. Collier replaces Seymour. Wed. Penney replaces Seymour). Thurs. at 7.30 Giselle.

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258.
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight & Tues 7.30: Madam Butterfly. Tomor & Thurs 7.30: Cinderella. Wed 7.30: Tosca. 104 balcony seats avail from 10 a.m. on day of perf. Season ends Feb 28.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE, EC1. 01-837 1672/1673/3856. Credit Cards 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 278 0871.
Today & Tomor. last three perfs.
D'OYLY CARTE presents
RUDDIGORE
7.30. Mat. Tomor. 2.30. Eve. perf. Trust Assoc. members only). Tkts. £2.00 to £6.50.
Feb., 23 to 28.
CONCERTS AT THE WELLS. Tue., Wed. at 7.30 Robert & Benjamin Luxon with Constable. Tkts. £1 to £3.50.

CONCERTS

BARTOK'S Centenary Celebration. Budapest of Hungary's outstanding Quartet. This Sunday at 7.30 p.m. Riverside Studios: 748 3354.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL. 01-928 3191. BOYS OF THE LOUGH Flora MacNeil (Barra) on Feb 24, 7.45. Traditional music from Ireland, Scotland and Shetland. Tickets £2-£3.50.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL (01-589 8212) Tonight 7.45 LPO, James Loughran, Kun-Woo Paik. Tchaikovsky: Francesca; Rachmaninov: Paganini Variations; Franck: Symphony. All seats £1.50.

THEATRES

ADELPHI S CC 01-836 7611 Evgs at 7.30. Sats. 4.0 & 7.45. Mats. Thursday at 3.0
TONY BRITTON
LIZ ROBERTSON, PETER BAYLISS
and ANNA NEAGLE in
MY FAIR LADY
"MARVELLOUS SHOW"—Now! "SPECTACULAR"—D. Express. "STUNNING"—Time Out. Now booking through to Oct. Group Bookings Telephone 01-836 7358 or 01-379 6061

ALPHA-OMEGA SHOW GUIDE
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST, EDUCATING RITA, TOMFOOLERY, DUET FOR ONE, PAL JOEY
CREDIT CARD SALES 379 6565 (9 a.m. all major cards. No fees). GROUP bkgs. 836 3962. STUDENT STANDBY £2.90.

AMBASSADORS S cc 836 1171. Evgs 8. Tue 3, Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
J. B. PRIESTLEY'S
Mystery Play
DANGEROUS CORNER
"One of the cleverest plays ever written." Daily Telegraph.

ALBERY S 836 3878 cc bkgs 379 6565. Grp bkgs 379 6061. 836 3962. Eves 8. Thurs mat 3.00. Stalls from £2.90. Sat 5 & 8.15. "SIAN PHILLIPS 'A KNOCK-OUT'" S. Times. S. Exp. DENIS LAWSON Most Promising New Actor DRAMA AWARD 1980 "THE MARVELLOUS MUSICAL" Sunday Times.
PAL JOEY
"IS SOMETHING TO BE SEEN AT ALL COSTS" (F.T.), RODGERS & HART'S GREATEST HIT (D. Mail), GLITTERINGLY SLEAZY, SHEER THEATRICAL RAZZLE DAZZLE Std.

ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6, Sats. 10-4). Info. 836 5332. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't. 7.30. Tomor. 2.00 & 7.30.
PASSION PLAY
by Peter Nichols
"Sheer magic" Times. "Superlative acting" S. Tel. "The laughter came thick and fast . . . *an exciting start to the theatrical year*" S. Times. With: O'Casey's award winning JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK (next perf. 25 Feb.) and Nikolai Erdman's THE SUICIDE (next perf. 26 Feb.). Prestel booking 22023. Group Sales 379 6061. RSC also at The Warehouse/Piccadilly.

ARTS 836 3334. Reduced Price Prevs 4-9 March, 8 pm. Opens 10 March, 7 pm. Thereafter 8 pm.
JOHN JUDD in
'TWISTED CUES & ELLIPTICAL BALLS'
An affectionate look at the lives & music of Gilbert & Sullivan £4, £3, £2.

CHURCHILL cc 460 6677/5838 Bromley, Kent. 7.45. Sat. 4.30 & 8. Thurs. 2.30.
PETER DAVISON SANDRA DICKINSON
in Neil Simon's comedy
BAREFOOT IN THE PARK,
with MARGERY MASON & EWEN SOLON

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. From 2 March until 23 May only. Eves 7.15 (March 4 at 6.30). Mat. Thurs. 2.00 (note early start). The National Theatre smash-hit production (from The Cottesloe) of
ARTHUR MILLER'S
THE CRUCIBLE
Directed by Bill Bryden

COTTESLOE (N.T's small auditorium—low price tkts.): Mons. to Sats. 7.45 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN by Tom Taylor. Ton't 6.00 From Kipling to Vietnam: compiled & performed by Kenneth Graham. Platform perf. all tkts. £1.20.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves. 8. Sat. 6 & 8.45. Robin Ray, Jonathan Adams, Martin Connor, Tricia George in
A SATIRICAL REVUE
TOMFOOLERY
Words, music & lyrics of Tom Lehrer
"HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY" Sunday Times
"OUTRAGEOUS" Gdn.

DRURY LANE, Theatre Royal. Tel, 01-836 8108.
THE BEST LITTLE WHORE HOUSE IN TEXAS
Reduced price previews Feb. 21, 23, 24, 25 at 8.0. OPENS FEB. 26 AT 7.0. Fri. Feb. 27 at 8.30 only. Subs. Evgs. Mon. to Thur. 8.0. Fri. & Sat. 5.30 & 8.30. Group Sales Box Office 379 6061.

DUKE OF YORKS S 836 5122. Credit Cards 379 6565, 836 9837, 839 4683 Group Bookings 836 3962, 379 6061 Evgs 8.00. Sats 3.0 & 8.30. Stalls & Circle from £2.90.
FRANCES DE LA TOUR
ACTRESS OF THE YEAR
Swet awards 80
BEST ACTRESS
New Standard Drama Awards 80
BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS
1980 DRAMA AWARDS
and DAVID DE KEYSER
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Drama Awards of the Year 1980
in TOM KEMPINSKI'S
DUET FOR ONE
BEST NEW PLAY
Drama Awards 1980
"THE AMAZING NEW PLAY"
Daily Telegraph
"NO ONE INTERESTED IN THE THEATRE CAN AFFORD NOT TO SEE THIS PRODUCTION" F.T.

GARRICK S cc 01-836 4601 Evenings 8.0 until 14 March.
MAX WALL

GLOBE s cc 437 1592, 439 6770.
FOR 12 WEEKS ONLY
SOLD OUT UNTIL APRIL 1
ROWAN ATKINSON
IN REVUE
Evenings 8.0. Sats. 6 & 8.45.

GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evgs. 8.0 (sharp). Mat. Sats. 2.30. DONALD SINDEN in PRESENT LAUGHTER by Noel Coward. Ends here 7th March! Open 12th March CONSTANCE CUMMINGS in THE GOLDEN AGE, new play by A. R. Gurney.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301 Ton't 8 p.m. Ends Tomor. Tomor mat 4.30.
Jean-Claude Grumberg's
THE WORKSHOP
Previews from 28 Feb
Mike Leigh's new play
GOOSE PIMPLES

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL, cc 01-930 9832. Only 9 more weeks. Mon-Sat eves. at 8.0 MAGGIE SMITH "a great tragicomic actress in full bloom" Financial Times in
VIRGINIA
"a beautifully crafted, highly emotional experience" D. Tel. A new play by Edna O'Brien from the lives and writings of Virginia and Leonard Woolf. Directed by Robin Phillips. "RADIATES PERFECTION" S. Exp. Latecomers may not be admitted.

JEANNETTA COCHRANE 242 7040 Until Feb 28, Evs 7.30: Feb 28, 5 & 8. NO NAMES . . . NO MEDALS. A story of the S.A.S. by Euan Smith. Unsuitable for children.

KINGS HEAD, 226 1916. Ends tomor! Dnr. 7.0. Show 8.0. DAFFODILS—The Barrow Poets.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH cc 01-741 2311. Eves. 7.30. Thur. Mat. 2.30. Sats. 4.30 & 8.15 HOBSON'S CHOICE. Cast includes Arthur Lowe, Julia McKenzie, Ronald Pickup. "It's still a great choice . . . this thoroughly enjoyable comedy" N. Std. " . . . beautifully observed" Sunday Telegraph.

LYRIC S cc 01-437 3686, evgs. 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0, Sat 5.30, 8.30.
DINSDALE LANDEN
NICOLA PAGETT
in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
TAKING STEPS
"A VERY FUNNY EVENING. ENJOYED MYSELF ENORMOUSLY" Evening News
"THE BEST FARCE IN TOWN"—Punch.

LYTTELTON (N.T.'s proscenium stage): Ton't & Mon 7.45 tomor 3.00 & 7.45. LAST PERFS WATCH ON THE RHINE by Lillian Hellman.

NATIONAL THEATRE S cc 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON / COTTESLOE. Excellent cheap seats from 10 am day of perf all 3 theatres. Also Standby 45 mins before start. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs. 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily (incl. backstage) £1.50. Info. 633 0880.

New London Theatre cc Drury Lane, London, W.C.2. 01-405 0072. Opens April 30, prevs from April 22
CATS
A MUSICAL BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER BASED ON OLD POSSUM'S BOOK OF PRACTICAL CATS, BY T. S. ELIOT. Presented by Cameron Mackintosh and The Really Useful Company Ltd. Cast will include JUDI DENCH, PAUL NICHOLAS, WAYNE SLEEP, Roland Alexander, Sarah Brightman, John Chester, Geraldine Gardner, Sharon Lee Hill, Finola Hughes, Bonnie Langford, Anita Pashley, Myra Sands, Les Saxon, Jeff Shankley, Sue Jane Tanner, John Thornton, Donald Waugh, Ken Wells. Musical Director Chris Walker. Sound by Abe Jacob. Lighting Design by DAVID HERSEY. Designed by JOHN NAPIER. Associate Director and Choreographer GILLIAN LYNNE. Directed by TREVOR NUNN.
CATS
ADDITIONAL BOX OFFICE (at Normal Theatre Prices). The Ticket Centre (by Wyndham Theatre), St. Martin's Court, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2.
BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN!

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 'S' Until 14 March. Mon. to Sat. Evgs at 7.30 Wed & Sat at 2.00. Winston Ntshona & John Kani in WAITING FOR GODOT.

OLIVIER (N.T's open stage): Ton't 7.30, tomor 2.45 & 7.30 A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY by Ivan Turgenev, trans by Isaiah Berlin.

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Evgs 7.30, Mats Tues, Wed, Thur & Sat. at 2.45. JIM DAVIDSON, MOLLIE SUGDEN, WINDSOR DAVIES, MELVYN HAYES, CLIVE DUNN, LIONEL BLAIR in
DICK WHITTINGTON
"An evening of glitter . . . I can't remember a better Pantomime at the Palladium" J. Tinker, D. Mail. Extra ½ term Mat. Mon. next 2.45 Book now. Box Office and all agents. Credit cards accepted. Group sales box office 379 6061.
FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS April 14-19, 6 days only, including Good Fri. & Easter Sunday
ELLA FITZGERALD-OSCAR PETERSON
Opens April 28th—3 weeks only. THE LIBERACE SHOW '81 Starring "MR SHOWMANSHIP".
LIBERACE
with supporting company. Box office now open. Credit cards accepted.

PALLADIUM 01-437 7373. Opens June 11 (previews May 29).
MICHAEL CRAWFORD
in the hit Broadway musical
BARNUM
Postal booking now open.

PALACE, S cc 01-437 6834 "OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING!" Daily Mail.
Rodger's & Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!
"A MAGICAL MUSICAL EXPERIENCE" S. Times. Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. 3.00. For group bookings 01-379 6061. Better selection of seats available Mon.-Thur.

PICCADILLY S 437 4506 cc 379 6565. Group Bkgs 836 3962/379 6061. Mon.-Fri. 8. Mat. Wed. 3. Sat. 6 & 8.40. Stalls from £2.90.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO.
in Willy Russell's new comedy
EDUCATING RITA
COMEDY OF THE YEAR SWET AWARD 1980
JULIE WALTERS MOST PROMISING ACTRESS DRAMA CRITICS' AWARD 1980
"SPLENDID THEATRE EVENING QUITE ASTOUNDING"—Time Out.
"A MARVELLOUS PLAY, HILARIOUS, IT SENT ME OUT MOVED, EXCITED & EXHILARATED" S. Tms.
RSC also at Aldwych/Warehouse.

PHOENIX c.c. 01-836 2294/5. Credit Card Bookings 01-836 8611.
THAT'S SHOWBIZ!
"Variety is back in the West End" D. Mail. "Terrific" F. Times. "Show Stopping" Times. "That's Magic" S. Tel.
TWICE DAILY at 6.00 & 8.30. Prices: £2.60, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50.

PRINCE EDWARD, S cc Box Off. 437 6877. cc Hotline 439 8499. Grp. sales 379 6061. Eves 8.0 Mat. Thur. (Economy price) & Sat. 3.0.
EVITA
by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. by Harold Prince.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 930 8681. Credit Card bookings 930 0846.
PAUL DANIELS in
IT'S MAGIC
"TRIUMPH" Fin. Times. "A WINNER" Variety. "PURE MAGIC" Sun. Mirror. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Easter perfs.: Good Friday as normal. EXTRA MATS 20th & 21st APRIL AT 3.0.

QUEENS S cc 01-734 1166 01-439 3849 01-439 4031.
PENELOPE KEITH
Peter JEFFREY Barbara FERRIS
MOVING
A new play by Stanley Price
Directed by Robert Chetwyn
Evenings 8.0. Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15. Grp sales 379 6061
"STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART . . . A FUNNY AND MOVING STORY OF SELLING A HOUSE" Daily Mail.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. At 7, 9, 11 p.m. Open Suns. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts! New Girls! New Thrills! 23rd sensational year! Fully air conditioned.

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS: 748 3354. Tues. to Sun. 7.30. JOINT STOCK in Say Your Prayers. New musical play by Nick Darke. "Admirable story telling . . . intelligent comedy" Times.

ROUND HOUSE, 267 2564. Scarborough Theatre in the Round, in SUBURBAN STRAINS, a musical play by ALAN AYCKBOURN composed by PAUL TODD. Evgs. 8. Mats. today 2.30. Until March 14. "A witty, ingenious Musical play" Gdn. "Mr Ayckbourn at his familiar best" The Times.

ROUND HOUSE 267 2564. Royal Exchange Theatre Company. THE DUCHESS OF MALFI with Helen Mirren and Bob Hoskins. 1 April-2 May. HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO DECLARE? 13 May-6 June. THE MISANTHROPE with Tom Courtenay. 1 July-1 August. Season Ticket available.

ROYAL COURT S cc 730 1745.
TOUCHED
By Stephen Lowe. Ton't & tomor. Last two perfs! "Beautifully written . . . performances superb" Gdn.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS 730 2554. FOUR IN A MILLION devised & Dir. by Les Blair. Evgs. 7.30. "Very funny, exceptionally enjoyable" S. Tms.

SHAW 01-388 1394. Evgs. 7.30. LAST 2 WEEKS.
GOTCHA and KILLING TIME
by BARRIE KEEFE
Youth Price all seats £1.50

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888.
JOHN ALDERTON PAULINE COLLINS
"PLAY OFF EACH OTHER BEAUTIFULLY TOUCHING, FUNNY AND VERY MUCH ALIVE." Gdn.
in Charles Dyer's comedy
RATTLE OF A SIMPLE MAN
"COULD HAVE BEEN SCRIPTED FOR THEM." Times. "A THEATRICAL GEM." The People. Mon-Fri 8.0. Sat 5.45 & 8.45. Reduced Group Bookings 839 3092. Credit Card bookings. Only 839 7516 (9.30 a.m.-6.00 p.m. Sats 9.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.). Last 2 weeks.

ST. MARTIN'S. cc 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tue. 2.45. Sats 5 & 8.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
29th YEAR

STRAND cc 01-836 2660, 01-836 4143. Evs. 8.0. Thurs. 3.0 Sats. 5.30 & 8.30.
NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis
Group sales box office 379 6061. Mons-Sats 8pm.

TRICYCLE THEATRE 269 Kilburn High Rd., NW6. 328 8626. Crucible Theatre's Production of BLACK BALL GAME by Don Webb. "It's brilliant" Gdn. "Very funny satire" Tms. Evgs. 8 p.m. Ends Tomor.

SHAFTESBURY. cc Shaftesbury Ave., W.C.2. Tel. Box Office 01-836 6596 or 01-836 4255. Credit Card booking only 01-839 7516 01-839 4682 01-839 4855 (9.30-6.00. Sats. 9.30-4.30) Group bookings only 01-839 3092
TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN
THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG
"This show is a real stunner. Two of the most engaging performances in London." D. Mail. Prices: Stalls & Royal Circle £8.00. £6.50, £5.00. Circle £3.50 (£1.00 seats at Box Office) (OAP's £4.00 Wed. Mats. best seats. Student Standby £4.00). Mon.-Fri. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Wed. 3.0. Sats. 5.0 & 8.30.

VICTORIA PALACE cc 01-828 4735/6. 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30. Wednesday & Saturday 2.45. Group Sales 01-379 6061.
ANNIE
"UNBEATABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT" Observer.

VAUDEVILLE S CC 01-836 9988. Twice daily 2.45 & 7.45. Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's
SMASH HIT MUSICAL
JOSEPH
AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT
GRP SALES 379 6061.
"A DREAM OF A SHOW" D Ex
"SIMPLY WONDERFUL" BBC
EXTRA MATS DAILY AT 2.45.

VAUDEVILLE s cc 836 9988 OPENING MARCH 17 AT 7.0
DONALD SINDEN in
PRESENT LAUGHTER
by NOEL COWARD
"TERRIFIC" S. Times.
Red price prevs from March 11

WAREHOUSE Donmar Theatre. Earlham Street, Covent Garden. Box Office 836 6808. Ton't Tomor. 7.30.
TELEVISION TIMES by Peter Prince. "Funny and constantly diverting . . . carried through with splendid attack" T.L.S. All seats £3.50. Students £2.00 in advance from Aldwych Box Office.

WESTMINSTER S CC 01-834 0283 From March 3 Matinees only. Monday-Friday 2.15, Sats 3.0
THE NAMESAKE

WINDMILL THEATRE. cc 01-437 6312. Continuous perfs nightly from 6.30 including Sundays. PAUL RAYMOND presents RIP OFF. Hotter than ever for 1981. The erotic experience of the modern era. 5th Great Year.

WYNDHAM'S. S 836 3028. cc 379 6565. Red. price, Gps 836 3962. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 6 & 8.45.
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST
"Exactly the shot in the arm that the West End needed" S Times. "One of the funniest shows London has seen in a very long time" Punch. "Hilarious" D Tel.

YOUNG VIC 928 6363. Eves 7.30. Ton't, Mon, Tue, RICHARD II. Sat, ROSENCRANTZ.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 Air conditioning. Credit cards. LONDON'S GREAT NIGHT OUT From 8.00. Dining & Dancing
BRUCE FORSYTH
preceded at 9.30 by
SUPER REVUE
"BUBBLY"
DANCING TILL 1 A.M.

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. 5th month Joseph Losey's film of Mozart's DON GIOVANNI (A) perfs. 1.00 (not Sun), 4.10, 7.40.
ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Andrei Tarkovsky's haunting new film STALKER (A). Progs. 1.50 (not Sun.), 4.50, 8.00.
ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Cocteau's ORPHEE (A) and Renoir's PARTIE DE CAMPAGNE (A) Progs 5.45, 8.15. Sats/Suns also 3.15.
CAMDEN PLAZA, Camden Town 485 2443 (opp Tube) ISABELLE HUPPERT in Maurice Pialat's LOULOU (X) 2.35, 4.40, 6.45, 9.00.
CLASSIC 1 CHELSEA, King's Road, 352 5096. Isabelle Huppert in Pialat's LOULOU (X) progs 2.30, 5.30, 8.20. Last perf bookable.
COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave (734 5414). A John Cassavetes Film GLORIA (AA). Cont. progs. Dly 1.30 (not Sun) 3.45, 6.00, 8.20. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.00 p.m.
CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737 BURT LANCASTER, SUSAN SARANDON in LOUIS MALLE'S ATLANTIC CITY (AA). Film at 2.0 (not Sun), 4.05, 6.20, 8.40.
EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 1234. Seats bookable for the last evening performance only. Advance box office open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. (not Suns). Credit card telephone bookings ring Teledata 200-0200. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (U) Sep progs. daily 2.00, 6.30. Late Show Sat. 11.00 p.m.
Now RITZ, Leicester Square. WATERSHIP DOWN (U) Sep progs daily 1.30, 3.45, 6.00, 8.30. Late Show Sat. 11.15 p.m.
GATE CINEMA, Nott. Hill. 221 0220/727 5750. MARTIN SCORSESE'S RAGING BULL (X) 1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.50 THE PASSENGER (X) & PAT GARRETT AND BILLY THE KID (X) 11.15 P.M.
GATE TWO CINEMA. 837 8402/1177. Russ. Sq. Tube. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U) 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00 THE OMEN (X) & DAMIEN—OMEN II (X) 11.00 P.M. Lic'd bar.
GATE THREE CINEMA. 267 1201/485 2446. Camden Twn. Tb. MIZOGUCHI'S CLASSIC THE STORY OF THE LAST CHRYSANTHEMUMS (A) 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. LIC'D BAR.
GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031 MAYFAIR HOTEL, Stratton St. Green Pk. Tb. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U), 5.30, 7.20, 9.15.
LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). THE SPECIAL EDITION: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND (A). Sep progs Mon-Sat 2.10, 5.15, 8.20, Sun 3.30, 7.30. Seats bookable w/ends, last eve prog & late shows.
MINEMA 45 Knightsbridge 235-4225/6. Andrey Tarkovsky's "MIRROR" (U) (Russian dialogue—English subtitles). Daily: 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Late Night Show Fri & Sat 11.00 pm. Must end 25th Feb.
ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771) ALIEN (X) IS BACK! in 70mm and Stereo sound. Sep. progs. 1.45, 4.50, 8.00. Sun. 4.20, 7.45. Late Night Show Sat. 11.15.
ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Dolly Parton NINE TO FIVE (AA). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open 1.15, 4.20, 7.30. Sun. 3.00, 7.30. Late Night Show Fri. & Sat. Doors open 11.15.
ODEON MARBLE ARCH, W.2 (723 2011/2). THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (U). Sep Progs. Drs Open Dly 2.30, 6.45. Late Night Show Sat PINK FLOYD LIVE AT POMPEII (U)/GENESIS IN CONCERT (U). Drs Open 11 p.m.
ODEON ST. MARTIN'S LANE. THE NINTH CONFIGURATION (X). For info 240 0071 Box Office 836 0691. Sep. Progs. Dly. 1.35 (not Sun.) 4.45, 8.10. Late Night Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45.
PRINCE CHARLES, Leic. Sq. 437 8181. British Premier Presentation CALIGULA (X) Sep Perfs Dly (inc Sun) 2.15, 5.30, 8.45. Late show Fri & Sat 11.55. Seats bkble. Lic'd bar.
PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4. Off Piccadilly Circus. 437 1234. Advance booking facilities same as Empire, Leicester Square.
• *1. MORE AMERICAN GRAFFITI (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 p.m.
• *2. AIRPLANE (A). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 p.m.
*3. MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.). 3.30, 6.00, 8.35. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 p.m.
*4. THE FORMULA (AA) Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.30, 6.00, 8.35. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.15 p.m.
• *No smoking area.
*No smoking.
SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366 Robert de Niro. RAGING BULL (X). Film showing at 1.45, 4.10, 6.40, 9.10. Ring 435 9787 after 2 p.m., for phone bookings.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W1. 629 6176. 108th ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION. Until 20 Feb. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30: Thurs until 7.

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W.1. 629 6176. Peter Brook—Yorkshire Landscapes until 27 Feb. Thurs. until 7 p.m.

ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 & 23 Dering St. W.1. British Art 1900-1980/Carl Andre. 629 1578.

BRITISH LIBRARY (in Brit. Museum). George Eliot until 26 April. Tudor Map Making until 31 Dec. Wkdys. 10-5, Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.

BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St., 734 7984. Keith Grant.

CHRISTOPHER WOOD GALLERY, 15. Motcomb Street, London, SW1. 01-235 9141/3.
SIR GEORGE CLAUSEN, R.A., (1852-1944)
Drawings and Watercolours. 17th February-6th March. Weekdays 9.30-5.30 (Sats. by appointment).

DRIAN GALLERIES, 7 Porchester Place, W2. 723 9473. Stephen Whittle Etchings/Aquatints till 6 March. Daily 10-5. Sat. 10-1.

HAYWARD GALLERY (Arts Council), South Bank, London SE1. EDWARD HOPPER and WILLIAM JOHNSTONE. Till March 29. Mon-Thurs. 10-8. Fri and Sat. 10-6. Adm £1.50. All day Mon, 6-8 Tues-Thurs: 75p.

JAPANESE ARTS 17-28 Feb. Screens, Paintings, Prints and Drawings, Covent Garden Gallery Ltd, 20 Russell St., W.C.2. 01-836 1139.

LEFEVRE GALLERY: 30 Bruton St., W.1. 01-493 1572/3. Twentieth Century Works on View. Mon-Fri. 10-5.

LEGER GALLERY, 13 Old Bond St. THOMAS ROWLANDSON — 63 Original Watercolours. Mon-Fri. 9.30-5.30 until 27th Feb.

MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St. W1. BILL BRANDT: NUDES (1945-1980). Mon-Fri 10-5.30. Sat 10-12.30.

NEW GRAFTON GALLERY, 42 Old Bond St. W1. 499 1800. EDWARD ARDIZZONE 1900-1979.

REDFERN GALLERY ADRIAN HEATH. New Paintings 1978-80 January 28-February 25. 20 Cork Street, London, W1. Mon-Fri. 10-5.30. Sats 10-12.30.

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ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
PICCADILLY, W.1.
1. A New Spirit in Painting until 18th March. Adm. £2. Concessionary Rate £1.40.
2. Honore Daumier 1808-1879 until 15th March. Adm. £1.50. Concessionary Rate £1.
3. Painting from nature until 15th March. Adm. £1. Concessionary Rate 50p.
All exhibitions open daily 10-6. Concessionary Rate applies — O.A.P.'s, students, groups over 10 and until 1.45 p.m. Suns.

THE COTTAGE GALLERY, 9 Hereford Rd., W.2. 01-221 4378. Graphics, drawings, sculptures, by the American Artist Leonard Baskin. Opening 20th February. Tues.-Fri. 10-6. Sat. 11-3.

EVENTS

WEMBLEY ARENA cc 01-902 1234
HOLIDAY ON ICE
WITH ROBIN COUSINS
£3.20 to £5.20. Children half price. Car park. Must end Sun.

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 26

BIRTHS

BIRTHDAYS

MARRIAGES

DEATHS

IN MEMORIAM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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For more information or to book your advertisement

Ring Stella Scrivener on 01-278 9351

CARING FOR THE ELDERLY...

Mr. and Mrs. Green were ill, old, desperate . . . but Counsel and Care for the Elderly made life happy again by finding them a home together and the finance to meet the cost. Only 86p a day, £6 a week, is needed to help others like them. Please send donations to:

COUNSEL & CARE FOR THE ELDERLY
(Elderly's Invalid Fund)
131 MIDDLESEX STREET,
LONDON, E1 7JF.
Tel.: 01-247 9844.

CANCER RESEARCH

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,455

ACROSS

1 Beating beer, and possibly gin (9).
6 About twice round a tropical tree (5).
9 Jumpers seen at Twickenham? (4-3).
10 Same members changed river enactment (7).
11 The crowd before the Nazis? (5).
12 Eskimo dogs—do only the bitches bark? (9).
13 Job's communion? (4-4).
15 Mark causes endless alarm (4).
19 Epstein's work an eastern prince returned (4).
20 Sound IRA revolutionary, this creature (8).
23 Third degree restaurant? (5-4).
24 Rose's adherent departed quietly—returning (5).
26 Breathless footpad's demand in Hampshire town (7).
27 Japanese ornament Sue Kent mislaid (7).
28 Fascinating woman warned of attack? (5).
29 Direction to cads—taking peg is bad for driving (5-4).

DOWN

1 Top dramatist might show self-control (4, 5).
2 Knight didn't get a lot for this weapon (5).
3 Little beasts get work on very big problems (8).
4 Associate eventually includes a Test opener (8).
5 Beg £1,000, a new way to speculate (6).
6 Wet and sticky for a short distance in the pipe (6).
7 Impudence shown by expert with article on shrimps, etc (9).
8 American playwright dotes on cooking (5).
14 Mnemonic includes key for the rest (9).
16 Parish overseer from a forest in the country (5, 4).
17 Bright decoration servant put up before (8).
18 A place the better types would leave (8).
21 One and one a side (6).
22 Writer to disregard Polonius's advice (6).
23 Drug commonly swallowed by lower types? (5).
25 Some card! But a jolly good fellow (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,434

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEBRUARY BLUES? ....CHEER UP!

What you need is a holiday—and today The Times Special Feature "HOLIDAYS '81" is here to help you plan it—lots of ideas and advice, plus our Brochure Service to give you the widest choice at the lowest cost.

DON'T MISS IT!

SEE PAGES 23, 24 and 25 TODAY!

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GASLIGHT of St. James's London's more interesting businessman's night club. 2 bars, restaurant, dancing, cabaret spots. Happy Hour 8-9 p.m. with all bar drinks at ½ price. No membership required. Open Mon.-Fri. 8 p.m.-2 a.m., Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. 4 Duke of York St., S.W.1. 01-930 1648/4950.

UK HOLIDAYS

EDINBURGH.—Well appointed self-catering service flats, all inclusive from £30 per week, accommodating up to 6 persons. Sat-Sat.—Details from Leisure Letting, care of Flat-Let-Share, 45 Queens Street, Edinburgh EH2 3NY. 031 226 5876.

SPORT AND RECREATION

SEASONAL SALES

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How can you enjoy a truly memorable holiday amid peace, tranquillity, glorious scenery and warm hearted people? With the pound worth 25% more only Ireland can give you so much for so little.

Choose your fantasy holiday on 21st Feb in The Times Ireland feature—it could make a dream come true!!

If you want to be part of this special feature ring Helen O'Connell on 837 3311 Ext. 282 NOW.

Cancer Research Campaign

THE BIGGEST NAME IN CANCER RESEARCH

Cancer Research Campaign, Dept TXA, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AR.

HOLIDAYS AFLOAT COMPETITION

The winners for The Times Holidays Afloat competition are:

1st Prize: Mr A. Power, Birkenhead, Merseyside, who wins a floating holiday amongst the Greek Islands donated by Flotilla Sailing Club.

2nd Prize: Mr J. Goodley, Wisbech, Cambs, who wins the digital direction finder donated by APT Electronics Ltd.

The Judges would like to thank all entrants and take this opportunity to remind readers of the U.K. Holidays Competition appearing tomorrow.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

CARIBBEAN DREAM VILLA HOLIDAYS

Fully staffed villas and beach cottages on ANGUILLA which has been described as perhaps the last unspoilt island in the Caribbean. Prices from £443 per person to £620 per person. All the above prices are inclusive of flight from Luton or Heathrow Airport, for 2 weeks. We also have colour portfolios on the islands of Antigua, St. Lucia and Mustique, as well as villa information for Montserrat and Grenada. Phone or write indicating which island portfolio you require to:

HEANEY MARLAR TRAVEL LTD.
56 Ebury Street, SW1
01-730 8706
ATOL 1102B

SKI CLUB MARK WARNER

AS FEATURED ON BBC "HOLIDAY '81" TELEVISION PROGRAMME.

UK HOLIDAYS

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Mahon	From	£76	Return
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Corfu	From	£102	Return
Tenerife	From	£130	Return
Rimini	From	£86	Return
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A CONSIDERABLE SAVING

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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LANZAROTE	1-2 wks var	150	Lanzarote Villas	0405 51304
CANARY CRUISE	2 wks var	495	Lanzarote Villas	0405 51304
CANADA Vancouver/Rockies	2 wks 12 June	560	Panorama Holidays	0323 22553
ANDORRA Ski, Coach	9 days var	100	Young World	0273 202391
HAWAII/Apts/Hotel	2 wks Apr-Nov	498	Just California & Beyond	07535 56151
CALIFORNIA/Fly-Drive	1, 2 & 3 wks Apr/June	325	Just California & Beyond	07535 56154
CRETE/Villas/Apts	2 wks for 1 Apr/May	176	Just Crete	07535 56515
ALGERIA, H/B or flight	1-2 wks Apr/May	78	Lanzotic Travel	02934 75333
BALEARICS/ALGARVE Apts/Villas	1-4 wks var	103	Parasol Holidays	02934 514511
ALGARVE Villa	1/2,3 wks 9,16/23/30 Apr	1??	Fortune Villas	Oxted 4116

ATOL Nos respectively: 1403, 381B, 893B, C568CD, 783B 719B, 719B, 719B, 1245B, 178B, 141B.

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